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THE ASPECT OF EUROPE.

Not altogether dead is the great statesman to whom more than to any other man is due the amalgamation of the separate and independent States of Italy into one powerful kingdom. The work, indeed, is not yet completed. The various component and somewhat heterogeneous elements have yet to be fused and welded together. Antagonistic principles are still contending within, while false friends and implacable foes are watching their opportunity from without. But the spirit of the departed patriot hovers around the offspring of his genius, and Italy, securely reposing in the shadow of his memory, hopefully abides the fulfilment of her destinies. Even in death Count Cavour may be said to guard and foster the infancy of the Italian kingdom. It is, no doubt, owing to his removal from the political arena that the Emperor Napoleon III. has at length intimated his consent to the renewal of diplomatic relations with the Court of Turin. So long as Cavour was at the head of affairs it was comparatively of little consequence that the regular channel of communication between the two Governments happened to be closed. The private and quasi-unofficial correspondence of the French Emperor with the Italian Minister superseded the usual course of diplomatic negotiations, and enabled both parties to act with vigour and promptitude. But it can scarcely be judged advisable that the Minister of a Constitutional Government should entertain irresponsible relations with a foreign despot wielding at will the greatest military power in the world. Justly or otherwise, Count Cavour's own character had already begun to suffer from the false position in which he was thus placed, and his influence over his own impulsive and sensitive countrymen would soon have diminished had this state of things been permitted to continue. It was reported, and not always disbelieved, that a fresh barter of Italian territory was under consideration, and that the acquisition of Rome would be purchased by the cession of the Island of Sardinia. The bargain might not in the first instance be disadvantageous, but generous minds shrunk from the idea of a great and noble task being achieved by such ignoble means. Now, however, all such negotiations, if ever

they existed, must be broken off and thrown aside. Henceforth Italy must press forward with head erect and unhesitating steps towards the attainment of the honourable goal she has proposed to herself, and the start towards which was given by the illustrious statesman whose loss she contemplates with grateful regret, but without discouragement. At the stage at which she has now arrived no one man, however great, can be necessary to her. She has only to be true to herself, and her future success is a moral certainty.

Casting our eye over the map of Europe, we behold everywhere the smoke of smouldering fires ready to burst forth into a blaze at the slightest breath. For the moment the peoples are quiescent and expectant, while the privileged classes, incapable of being taught by examples, wilfully close their eyes to the gulf that is yawning at their very feet. Order prevails everywhere; the volcano slumbers; the storm-cloud is still below the horizon, but the murmur of the approaching tempest creeps along the surface of the rippling waters.

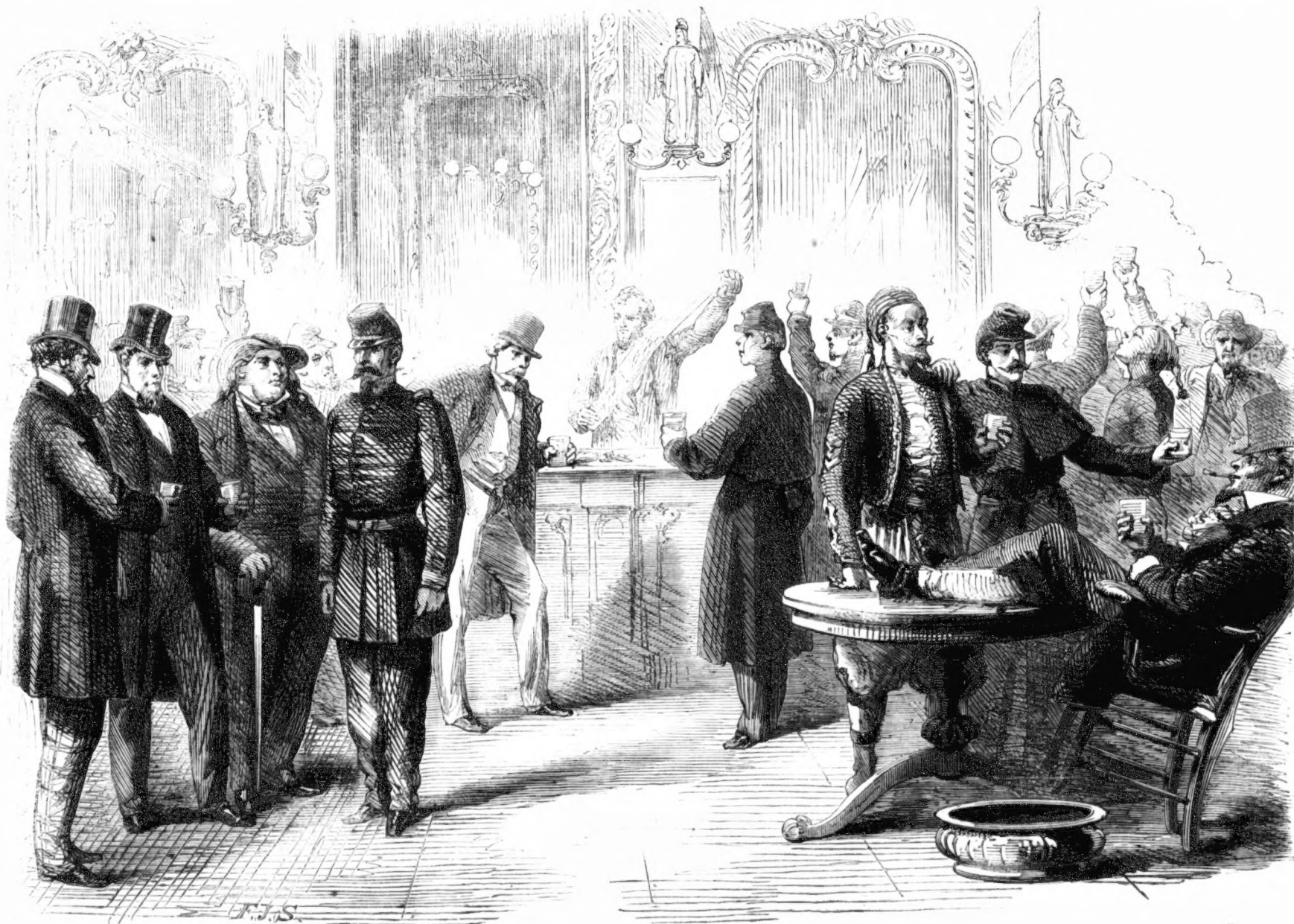
It is but the rest of the fire from which the air has been taken;
It is but the rest of the sand when the hourglass is not shaken;
It is but the rest of the tide between the ebb and the flow;
It is but the rest of the wind between the flaws that blow.

Sullen discontent prevails in Hungary in spite of the conciliatory reforms granted by Francis Joseph, for the popular instinct refuses again to repose confidence where it has once been deceived. There is no security for the permanence of the liberal measures extorted from the fears and necessities of an Emperor who has already violated the most solemn engagements. The hand that gives can also take away, and "ease" will "recant vows made in pain as violent and void." In the absence of a truly representative Assembly there can be no check upon the caprice or passion of a ruler who can dispose as he pleases of the military forces and revenues of the empire. What wonder, then, that the Hungarians should refuse to be comforted by mere words, however gracious? or place faith in assurances that have before now been found deceptive?

In Poland matters are still worse, and the future prospects still more gloomy and threatening. Notwithstanding the presence of an imposing mass of soldiery the popular excitement

goes on increasing. Troops are encamped in the streets of the capital, and brute force is the only instrument of government of which the Russians appear to be cognisant. The police regulations are openly set at defiance. Men and women go about in mourning, or boldly assume the national costume. The theatres are closed. Public festivities and private entertainments are equally unknown. The Polish language is heard from every lip, and even in the courts of law is recognised as official. Although at every step the inhabitants of Warsaw come upon monuments that remind them of their subjection, these very memorials of their misfortunes, or disgrace, keep alive the memory of the time when their city was the capital of a free and warlike nation whose soldiers have lorded it as conquerors in the palaces of Moscow. On the one side there can be no forgiveness; on the other, no hope of reconciliation. There is no sort of unity possible where such deadly hatred exists—where such cruel wrongs have been not only perpetrated but perpetuated. Throughout the kingdom of Poland a combined movement is agitating all ranks and classes. At present it is but the first admonitory rocking that gives warning of the coming earthquake; but no long period can elapse before the whole country will be convulsed from one extremity to the other. Were it not for mutual jealousies, and the invincible repugnance to surrender spoils gotten by fraud and violence, one might marvel how it comes to pass that the three Powers who shared in the partition of Poland cannot understand how it would be to their common advantage to restore that unfortunate kingdom. Without possessing in itself sufficient force to be aggressive, it would serve as a neutral ground and impassable barrier between the nations of Northern and Central Europe. That Poland will ultimately be admitted into the fraternity of independent States can hardly be doubted; but there is unhappily, still less doubt that that desirable consummation will only be effected after much bloodshed and misery.

The most certain and immediate peril, however, to the preservation of the tranquillity of Europe lies in the corrupt state of the Turkish empire. If the other Powers could be persuaded to leave Turkey to herself, there might possibly be



DRINKING TO "THE UNION!" IN A NEW YORK BAR-ROOM.

some chance of her gradual recovery; but, while each distrusts his neighbour, it is scarcely to be expected that any one in particular will set the example of such disinterestedness. The vultures are gathered around the dying lion, and will hardly await his last breath before they rush in and tear the yet quivering carcass into fragments. So far as this country is concerned, all that we require is the independence of Egypt, though it would assuredly be preferable to see Constantinople in the hands of Russia than in the possession of France. The Mediterranean will never become a French lake if the Russians obtain a footing on its shores. The latter in commercial matters would speedily pass ahead of their rivals, nor would they hesitate to maintain their lead by recourse to arms. The cleansing of Europe from the degrading presence of the Turk cannot be much longer deferred, and it is therefore incumbent on our statesmen to take care that the spoils shall be so divided as not to prejudice the safety and honour of England.

In the midst of this general agitation, Spain is recovering internal tranquillity and external influence. Inferior to no other country in the world for fertility of soil, in variety and excellence of climate, or in the manly qualities of its inhabitants, it needs only good government to enable it to resume a foremost place in the polity of nations. The question of course arises, will renovated Spain be a source of danger or of advantage to ourselves? Unless the Spanish Government weakly abjures its own independence and consents to act subordinately to France, we cannot have anything to apprehend in that quarter. Indeed, both magnanimity and sound policy demand that every assistance and moral encouragement should be afforded by this country to every nation that honestly strives to accredit itself in the eyes of the world. While true to ourselves, we have nothing to fear from others, nor are we ever likely to suffer from a straightforward and generous line of conduct.

DRINKING "THE UNION!" IN NEW YORK.

THE enthusiasm which prevails in New York seems to have undergone little abatement, and men are all more or less connected with the military operations which are everywhere going on. The supply of troops to Washington continues, about a thousand a day being the present rate of their arrival. Meanwhile the war excitement prevails in the great commercial city. Citizens who were, a few weeks ago, in the full run and hurry of business, now walk about in uniform; while the bar-rooms are not without their complement of bright belts and glistening arms belonging to the volunteers who go in to "take a drink" to "The Union!" Our Sketch represents one of these truly American institutions, where plate-glass and gilding, marble-topped counters, and endless compounds known by the generic name of "drinks," and specially as "gum-ticklers," "cock-tails," "brandy-smash," "mint juleps," and the like, are deftly mingled by the smart barman who pours the glistening liquid with its ice crystals from glass to glass, as though he were performing some feat of legerdemain—as, indeed, it is, for his hands never approach together as the fluid streams from one tumbler to the other, while, with a rapidity which almost defies detection, he mixes a dozen flavours, and at last triumphantly thrusts before you a beverage worthy of any toast which is likely to be proposed as its accompaniment.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

It is reported in Paris that M. Thouvenel has issued a circular despatch announcing the intention of the Emperor to recognise the kingdom of Italy, and suggesting a congress for the settlement of the Roman question.

The French Legislative Chamber have agreed to the whole Budget by an immense majority—242 votes against 5. The session of the French Corps Legislatif is to be prolonged to the 27th inst. The new measure with regard to the press has been adopted.

The Government journals crow like Chanticleer at the success of the "administrative" candidates at the elections of the Councils-General. Out of 1000 seats it seems that the Government has only lost twelve.

By order of the French Government a funeral dirge in honour of the late Count Cavour, has been celebrated with great pomp in the Madeleine. Among the distinguished persons who attended were Marshal Vaillant, M. Thouvenel, Count Persigny, Count Morny, and Marshal Magnan.

Admiral Chappart has arrived at Toulon in order to form a new naval division.

SPAIN.

Spain has announced that she will preserve a strict neutrality in the civil war in America.

The *Correspondencia Autografa* of June 17 says:—"Spain demands the solemn promise of Mexico to execute the treaties before she entertains her proposition with regard to reparation on account of the late differences with the Spanish Ambassador in Mexico."

PORTUGAL.

Intelligence has been received from Portugal which affirms that proclamations of a revolutionary character are being circulated in that country accusing the Government of intending to weaken the Army, with the object of betraying the national independence, and concluding with the words "Saldanha for ever!"

SWITZERLAND.

The English Minister has protested before the Federal Council against the assertion of France that the opposition offered by England to the annexation of Savoy and Nice was the principal reason why France had not ceded the neutral territory of Savoy to Switzerland.

AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY.

The Vienna papers of Tuesday assert that in the last Ministerial Council it was resolved that the address of the Hungarian Diet should not be accepted, and that the Municipality of Pesth should be dissolved.

There appears to be some improvement in the financial affairs of Austria, an ordinance having been issued on Saturday for the resumption of the payment in specie of the interest on the national loan.

A third attempt to elect members in the district of Fiume to the Croatian Diet has completely failed. Not a single elector presented himself.

The Emperor has promised to grant an amnesty to those persons committed for political crimes in Bohemia who should request his Majesty's pardon.

RUSSIA AND POLAND.

A telegram from Thorn states that a courier has arrived in Warsaw from St. Petersburg bearing the Imperial decrees granting the long-

promised reforms to Poland. The statutes of the future Council of State were published at Warsaw on the 19th, and the publication was followed by the withdrawal of the military from the streets and squares, and the reopening of the Ressource Club and the theatres. The statement published in some papers to the effect that the new Governor was about to inaugurate his reign by placing Warsaw in a state of siege has been denied.

Prince Waldemar Czetwertynski has been arrested and sent to the fortress of Modlin. Count Tyszkiewicz has been suspended from his functions of Marshal of the Nobility of Wilna, and the Countess, his wife, exiled for having made a collection for the purpose of giving an Easter banquet to the working classes.

DENMARK.

The recent speech of the King of Prussia in closing the Berlin Chambers appears to have excited very angry feelings at Copenhagen. One passage especially has given offence—that in which the King expressed his conviction that Federal execution in Holstein would not be regarded by the European Powers as a rupture of the general peace. The *Dagbladet* of Copenhagen has an article on the subject, in which it declares that the Government of Denmark cannot regard the invasion of any part of its frontier as anything but an act of hostility, and affirms that the Federal execution of which the King of Prussia speaks is simply war, and will be met as such. The *Dagbladet* warmly argues that Denmark has the capacity both to resist and retaliate, and observes that, if the European Powers desire to have the long-pending dispute peacefully arranged, it is quite time that their voices should be heard.

TURKEY AND THE EAST.

The last accounts received from Constantinople represent that the Sultan is still ill. His state was considered so serious that a physician had been telegraphed for from Paris.

The new Governor of the Lebanon has been appointed. He is an Armenian, named Davad Effendi, and at present Director-General of Telegraphs. According to the Paris papers, the French troops had no sooner departed from Syria than disturbances again broke out in the Lebanon. Fuad Pacha at once suppressed them, and executed one Druse chief. This example is said to have intimidated the Druses; but fears of retaliation were still entertained. We must wait, however, for fuller accounts before we can accept this report.

AFFAIRS OF ITALY.

THE ITALIAN KINGDOM.

Insurrectionary or reactionary movements had again made their appearance in the Neapolitan provinces San Marco and Bignano. Two small towns are said to have risen in insurrection, and to have been taken by assault by the Italian troops. Twenty of the inhabitants were shot for having burned alive four Piedmontese. Both towns were afterwards set on fire, and the inhabitants deported into the neighbouring villages.

An extraordinary rumour prevailed in Turin a few days since that some Austrian emissaries had formed a plot for the purpose of blowing up the powder-magazines, and the guards stationed there were trebled in numbers.

The Italian Parliament will continue its sittings through the month of July. General Cialdini has taken the oath and his seat as member.

The *Opinione* of Turin announces that diplomatic relations between France and Italy will shortly be resumed.

THE PAPAL STATES.

A sanguinary collision took place last week between some Pontifical gendarmes and the workmen employed on the railways near Velletri. The quarrel was caused by the latter having shouted "Viva Garibaldi!" Also some popular demonstrations have again taken place in one of the Roman theatres, which rang the other night to the cry of "Long live Victor Emmanuel!"

The Pope has been attacked by erysipelas.

CAVOUR'S LAST DESPATCH.

SOME of the foreign papers have just published a document which must be regarded as the last despatch issued by the hand of the late Count Cavour. It is addressed to the Envoy of King Victor Emmanuel at Berlin, and has for its object to explain the measure just taken with regard to the withdrawal of the exequatur from the consular agents of Bavaria, Wurtemberg, and the two Mecklenburgs. These latter Powers had refused to receive or recognise certain official documents addressed to them on the ground that their envelopes bore the seal of the Kingdom of Italy. Count Cavour's despatch is dated from Turin, the 20th of May. It points out that the Government of Victor Emmanuel had "religiously abstained from any step with regard to the German Powers which might seem to press upon them the recognition of the kingdom of Italy, and still less would it endeavour to obtain that recognition by any surreptitious means. Attaching a high value to their friendship, confiding, at the same time, in their fairness and wisdom, it declared, on the contrary, that it would leave them completely free to judge of the fitting moment when they should resolve to recognise the new title, and to recognise it in the only manner which could consist with their dignity and ours—that is, officially and openly." Especially Count Cavour adds, was the Italian Government desirous thus to act towards the Government of Bavaria, "to testify the full consideration which we attached alike to political circumstances and to family relations." But if Italy did not pretend to force a decision, neither could she tolerate a proceeding which violated all rules of convenience and propriety. Such a course as that taken by the Germanic Powers was, the despatch points out, the more unjustifiable, seeing that Austria, which had all along protested formally against the new kingdom, had, nevertheless, in order not to disturb individual and commercial relations, taken the initiative in permitting her agents to *viser* passports and other documents emanating from the Italian offices, although bearing the stamp of the kingdom of Italy. "As we could not, therefore," proceeds the writer, "remain indifferent to acts which were calculated to offend, and which constituted evidently a slight against the dignity of the Crown, the King my august Sovereign has taken the resolution of withdrawing the exequatur from the consular agents of Bavaria, of Wurtemberg, and of Mecklenburg in Italy." The document bears the signature, for the last time appended to a political despatch, "Cavour."

COUNT CAVOUR'S EXCOMMUNICATION.—The *Cork Examiner* publishes the following:—"Our well-informed French contemporary *L'Ami de la Religion* has an account of the death of Count Cavour, which we translate.—"On the morning of Wednesday, 5th June [he died on the 6th], M. de Cavour, finding the condition that he was in, asked that the Holy Father should be besought by telegraph to be pleased to remove the excommunication which he (Cavour) might have incurred. Pius IX. received with tears in his eyes the request of the Minister. Immediately and unconditionally was the text of the paternal response which the telegraph from Rome at once transmitted to the illustrious patient. It was M. de Cavour himself who named the priest to whom he wished to confess. It is true that there were some murmurs among the crowd when the sacrament passed into the Rue Cavour. The Italianissimi suffered from these demonstrations. The Marquis de Cavour, elder brother of Count Camille, who accompanied the *défi* bare-headed, with a wax candle in his hand, stopped an instant before the group from which those murmurs came, which the general emotion among the crowd disapproved of, and, it might be said, stifled." The *Patrie* says:—"We are enabled to guarantee the incorrectness of the statement that the priest who administered the last sacrament to Count Cavour either obtained or demanded a retractation of his acts and opinions."

A FRENCH GENTLEMAN, M. JACQUET, lately died at Rouen, leaving all his fortune to a lady in Paris. Singular to relate, the lady died about the same hour, leaving M. Jacquet all her money. The heirs of both are to contest which was the survivor.

THE CONFLICT IN AMERICA.

The news by the last mail may thus be summarised:—Owing to the presence of a large Secession force at Centreville, an anticipated advance of Federal troops across the Potomac had not taken place. The Secessionists stationed at Harper's Ferry were being so rapidly hemmed in that they were expected to evacuate that important point. From Fort Monroe we learn that a Federal scouting-party had been captured by the Secessionists, and that large numbers of fugitive slaves continue to flock to General Butler, seeking the protection of the Federal flag. It was thought that the Southerners would make a stand at Manassas Junction, or on the James River, which would be the scene of a most important battle.

Senator Douglas, whose life was despaired of at the dispatch of the previous mail, has since died.

In the Federal army at Alexandria alarms were rather frequent. Intrenchments continued to be thrown up. The 5th New York Regiment has been sent back to the capital; they appear to have been in a disorganised state. On the 31st ult. a company of New York Zouaves was sent to take possession of an old mill two or three miles from Alexandria, and a party of Virginia troops lying ambush fired upon them, killing one of the zouaves, and wounding another. The zouaves returned the fire, but without effect. On the night of the 2nd inst., during a drenching rain, two columns belonging to General McClellan's command, one under the command of Colonel Kelly, of the 1st Virginia Volunteers, and the other under Colonel Crittenden, and composed of the Indiana Volunteers, proceeded from Grafton to Phillipa, about twenty miles, and surprised a camp of Confederates there, 200 strong. The rebels were completely routed, after a brief struggle, with the loss of fifteen killed, and a large amount of arms, horses, ammunition, provisions, camp equipage, &c. The surprise is reported to have been most complete, and at last accounts the Federal forces were in hot pursuit, with the prospect of capturing a large number of prisoners. On the 31st ult. a body of Federal cavalry made a foray into Fairfax Courthouse, and retired with the loss of six killed and missing. It being reported that two of the prisoners were to be hanged by the Confederates, the Federal cavalry subsequently made another charge upon the town and released them.

Respecting the bombardment of the Confederate battery at Aquia Creek, the commander of the Federal squadron had reported as follows:—

The firing on shore was scarcely as spirited at any time as yesterday. The heights were abandoned, the guns apparently having been transferred to the earthworks at the railroad termination, to replace the battery silenced there by us on Friday. During the last hour of the engagement only two or three shots were thrown from the shore, the men being seen stealthily now and then to emerge from concealment, and hastily load and fire a single gun.

From other accounts it appears that the engagement lasted five hours, and that a rifled gun on a hill was unsilenced when the squadron drew off.

The movements of the Confederate forces were involved in mystery. Advice from Virginia state that on the death of Jackson (who shot Ellsworth at Alexandria) flags were hoisted half-mast high in various Confederate cities, and that Governor Letcher had sent for the family of Jackson, who would be provided for by the State, and a monument would be erected to his memory.

There were reported to be 5000 unemployed negroes at Richmond.

The Confederate Congress has passed an Act declaring that "during the blockade of any of the ports of the Confederate States of America by the Government of the United States it shall not be lawful for any person to export raw cotton or yarn from the Confederate States of America except through the seaports of the said Confederate States."

RELIGIOUS SERVICE IN PARIS FOR COUNT CAVOUR.—A religious service was performed on Monday at the Madeleine for Count Cavour. The front of the church was hung in black, and on both sides displayed flags with the Royal arms of Sardinia. The interior of the sacred building was also covered with black drapery, and at certain distances were shields with the letter "C" in the centre. A gorgeous catafalque, or, more properly, a cenotaph, rose in the centre of the nave, and around it hundreds of tapers burnt. At each angle stood a pillar, on the summit of which flickered a green-coloured flame. Clusters of flags, with the cross of Savoy and the arms of Sardinia, waved over the cenotaph, and a canopy of black cloth, suspended from the ceiling with ropes of white silk, and adorned with emblems of the same colour, rose above all. Flambeaux and tapers innumerable stood round and upon the altar. The service was announced to commence at twelve o'clock; but long before that hour a vast assemblage of people of various classes and of various nationalities had collected. A great number were dressed in black, and nearly all the ladies in the galleries wore deep mourning. Marshal Vaillant represented the Emperor, and M. Thouvenel the Cabinet Ministers. The other Ministers and several high officials were present in plain black dress, but wearing their decorations. Inclosed spaces to the right and left of the cenotaph had been reserved for them. Close to the cenotaph stood a group of Garibaldians wearing the red shirt. The nave of the church and galleries were crowded with people. The Abbé Duguerry (who has declined the bishopric of Marseilles, to which he had been appointed by the Emperor) officiated at the altar, assisted by his clergy. The dirges were executed by the choir with the accompaniment of the organ. When mass was over the clergy, wearing their sable vestments, descended to the cenotaph, while the "De Profundis" was chanted by the choir, and the last prayers for the repose of the soul of the deceased were repeated by the officiating priest. After the solemn words "Requiescat in pace" he sprinkled holy water on the cenotaph, and each person as he passed down the nave did the same.

THE SMALL QUARRELS OF GREAT POWERS.—The semi-official *Preussische Zeitung* contains some remarks on Lord John Russell's despatch in the Macdonald affair, in reply to the last note of Baron Schleinitz, who protested against Lord Palmerston's Parliamentary strictures on the Prussian Government and people. After a full quotation of Lord John's despatch, the *Preussische Zeitung* says:—"After our experience in this matter, there is nothing to astonish us in the tone and spirit of this document, which we will not further qualify in this place. It is the old story over again, with the addition of an undisguised attempt to draw a sharp line between the Government and laws of Prussia on the one hand, and the Prussian people on the other. The Prussians are exonerated from the errors and crimes which, according to English views, are to be laid at the door of their rulers. That the Government of a great nation should stoop to such hackneyed tactics is the more marvellous in the present case, since rarely has there been such perfect unanimity not only between the Prussian but the whole of the German nation and the Prussian Government as has been shown in this matter. We understand that no written reply is to be given to this last manifesto of Lord John Russell, or rather of Lord Palmerston, whose fine Roman hand may be clearly traced in the document. We applaud this resolution as in every respect judicious, for to continue such a correspondence would jeopardise, not only the maintenance of good and friendly relations, but also of all official communication with the British Government. To co-operate in the accomplishment of so lamentable and clamorous a result, through mere obstinacy and a petty desire for the last word, would be (to borrow Lord Palmerston's expression) not merely a crime, but a blunder, which the Prussian Government, as far as in it lies, will be careful to avoid committing."

M. THIERS AND THE PRIZE.—M. Thiers is said to have made the following reply to the notification from the Institute of their having awarded him the prize of £800 for his "History of the Revolution, Consulate, and Empire," as the greatest literary achievement in France of the present age:—"My dear Colleagues,—Take back this prize, which would have been pleasing to me forty years ago, and which may be as pleasing to others. Take it back; do with it what you like. In the time of Voltaire you would have deserved a clever satire for not having been gallant (Monsieur Duvivier, or George Sand, was one of the competitors for the prize). But Voltaire is dead, and we have a monk among us. Take back your prize, and strive that it may not return to you. Leave me to my books, and search the garrets for some future Thiers."

THE POLKS AND THEIR PRISON.—Eighteen miles from Warsaw stands the largest fortress in the world, a fortress with casemated and bombproof barracks for 40,000 men, and with a circumference of eleven miles. Whether this fact is generally known or not, it is certain that very few Englishmen, very few persons of any country but Russia—have been allowed the opportunity of inspecting this wondrous stronghold. Nor, I believe, is our Government at present in possession of any plan or sketch of the immense works; and, as evidence of the jealousy with which it is hidden from the eyes of strangers, I may mention that special permission from the Czar is requisite to enable any foreigner to enter it. The fortress is called Modlin, or the New Georgian—in Russian, Novo Giorgiewsk. —Once a Week.

IRELAND.

MURDER.—On Thursday week a farmer named Derreen, residing at Killybeg, Kilkenny, on the estate of the Marquis of Ormonde, was found lying dead in a field with a gun-shot wound through his head. He had previously been seen near the spot in conversation with a young man named Whelan, who had recently returned from America, and was living with his mother on a small farm in the same neighbourhood. Derreen is said to have refused Whelan as a son-in-law. Whelan has disappeared.

THE FRAUDULENT BURIAL CASE.—The trial of the prisoners in the fraudulent burial case was concluded on Monday in Dublin. The gist of it is that, in a cause entitled "Estate of M. G. G. G.," a sum of £500 was lodged in the Court of Chancery in London. This sum Maria Higgins had power to dispose of by will, provided she died without issue. A will was procured by the prisoners, Charles Higgins and Henry Devereux. It was proved to be drawn up in the handwriting of the latter, and on August 21, 1855, he applied for administration to the Court of Probate in Ireland. Ultimately letters of administration were granted by the Court of Probate in England, and on March 25, 1859, the sum of £500 was paid. These proceedings were taken on the allegation that Maria Higgins was dead. Her "mortal remains" were supposed to be "waked" in a house in Bishop-street, she being at the same time alive and well, and residing in the city at Haddington-road-terrace. A coffin was obtained with an inscription on the lid, setting forth the name and age of the lady. There was a funeral, with a hearse and two mourning-coaches, and the remains were interred with all due solemnity in the Roman Catholic Cemetery at Glasnevin. But the secret was disclosed, and the police inspector found nothing in the coffin but a bag of sand and some loose clay. Devereux said, in his defence, that he was drawn into the fraud by the others; that he got only £14 for his share in the transaction; that Higgins and his wife were in a state of starvation, and if the money had not been got they must have gone into the workhouse. The jury found both the prisoners guilty on all the counts, and the Judge sentenced them to imprisonment for two years.

IRISH MARRIAGES.—Another difficult and romantic marriage case has come before an Irish Court—the Court of Chancery. A Mrs. Steuart Corry petitioned the Court for dower out of the estate of her late husband, now in the possession of Lord Cremorne. In answer to this Lord Cremorne declares that Mrs. Corry was not married to Mr. Corry; that she was a "menial" in his family, and lived with him, but was not his wife; next, he asserts that she is debarred from any claim on the property because, lest she should be his wife, she was made a party to the deed of sale. Mrs. Corry rejoins that she was the daughter of Mr. Bretinall, a retired linen-merchant and farmer in Suffolk, that she entered the house of Mr. Corry as companion to his children, that he offered to marry her, and that they were married in Ireland in 1822, and subsequently in Scotland. Letters were put in showing that Mr. Corry always acknowledged her as his wife. There were two questions involved; the first, whether Mary Bretinall was the wife of Thomas Charles Steuart Corry—if that was proved, Dr. Corry, of Belfast, the issue of the marriage, claimed the estates now possessed by Lord Cremorne; next, there was the question of the deed of conveyance. Mr. Whiteside was the counsel for Mrs. Corry. The Chancellor delivered judgment, holding that the trustees of Lord Cremorne purchased under the Court, and are consequently protected by the third of 8th and 9th Victoria. He therefore dismissed the petition with costs.—A second marriage case, arising out of the confused state of the law, came before the Consolidated Nisi Prius Court last week. It was an action for the recovery of £80 from Alexander Gibbons, for the support of Ann Gibbons, his wife. He was the proprietor of extensive woollen-mills at Tulla, King's County. He was married to a young and pretty girl by a degraded priest; he induced her to go to America, promising to follow her, which he did not do. She then returned; when he repudiated her. The jury, by direction of the Judge, found upon the issue as to the amount due, and awarded £28, in addition to £16 13s. 4d. lodged in court.

THE PROVINCES.

MURDER IN WALKS.—The sequestered district of Llandissil, in Cardiganshire, has been disturbed during the past fortnight by a rumour that a woman named Jane Davies, living at a cottage in the valley of Clyttr, had poisoned her husband, to whom she had been only six months married, with phosphoric powder, commonly used to destroy rats. An investigation has taken place, and has resulted in the commitment of the woman on a charge of wilful murder.

DEADLY COLLIERY ACCIDENT.—The Black Shole Pit, at Clay Cross, (Derby), was the scene of a dreadful catastrophe last week. The pit adjoined an old shaft, which was full of water. A collier named Dawes is reported to have suspected that his stall was near the old hollows. He picked a portion of his stall with the intention of trying whether the water was getting through, and immediately a rush of water, "about the thickness of his pick handle," came through and poured continuously. Dawes gave the alarm, and the men on the bank quickly commenced drawing up the terrified colliers. By six o'clock the water had risen so fast as to shut out all hope of rescuing any more lives, and during the awfully brief time which had elapsed since the first alarm several hundred human beings had been saved from a terrible death. As the last man swam or floated to the chair, which was waiting to draw up the last load, he perceived that the stoppage of air was already telling, and that a fearful accumulation of sulphur had already commenced. Twenty men and boys were left in the pit, and must have perished.

EXTRAORDINARY FORGERIES.—A series of novel forgeries have been discovered at Manchester. Mr. Williamson, agent of the Royal Exchange Assurance Company, has been arrested on charges of forging documents availing that great losses had been sustained by fires on the premises of policy-holders where no such fires had taken place; of increasing the amount claimed for bona fide losses; and of endorsing, with forged signatures, bills he had been ordered to draw in satisfaction of these fraudulent claims. The incident has created a great sensation, since Mr. Williamson was "held in much esteem," and supposed to be wealthy. His father was agent for five-and-forty years, and the son has held the post for fifteen. One case brought before the magistrates illustrates his method. In December the prisoner sent a letter to the Exchange office in London, addressed to Mr. J. A. Higham, as follows:—"Sir, I regret to inform you that on Saturday, about midnight, the brigade were summoned to attend upon a fire, the property of Mrs. Moon, assured by policy No. 629,799; the occupants by policy No. 640,806. The premises were left, supposed to be safe, on Saturday afternoon at four o'clock. The only fire (which is a common grate) in the premises is confined to the counting-house. Near this fire the fire has certainly commenced. One of the firm was the last on the premises. After further investigation, no doubt, the cause of the disaster will appear. The stock on the premises was only taken last week. It amounts to the value of £8000. Being not considered inflammable a small insurance was thought sufficient. The engines were early at the scene, and poured forth, sadly, too much water. The damage to the building I think, will not exceed £50; the stock, Mr. Hodson thinks, will be about £400. Men have been set to work to clean and take care of the stock. I hope it may ultimately be found that the damage is easier than at present considered.—I am, Sir, &c." The whole of this letter is a pure piece of fiction, except the mere fact that the owners and occupiers named really had an insurance in the fire-office. The prisoner has been remanded.

INTERESTING PROCESSION.—In the village of Milnow, near Rochdale, the old custom of "Singing Sunday" is maintained. That for the present year occurred on Sunday, when eighty-four females connected with the choir and the school walked in procession to and from the church in the afternoon and evening, and sang the service, including two anthems. The whole four-score were dressed uniformly in white; they wore white-laced caps, and dispensed with bonnets. The Rev. Canon Raines preached, and £58 odd was collected for the schools.

BOAT ACCIDENT AT WINDERMERE.—One day last week Captain Ford, of the 2nd Lancashire Militia; Captain Park, formerly of the 55th Regiment of Infantry; and Captain Rawlinson, of the 3rd Dragoon Guards, put off in a yacht to enjoy a pleasure excursion on Windermere. The weather was unfavourable, and there was a stiff breeze. In the evening, opposite Southport, a sudden squall caught the vessel and capsized it. All on board were thrown into the water. Captain Rawlinson clutched the edge of the stern. Captain Park was seen by his companions swimming, first under the mast of the vessel, which hung horizontally over the water, and then striking away towards the centre of the lake. He had not proceeded far when he sank. Captain Ford said, "There goes poor Park!" Shortly after Captain Ford dropped his hold of the boat and struck out for the margin of the lake. He, too, sank, and did not rise again. In the meantime Captain Rawlinson, the sole survivor, stripped off his clothes to his shirt, boots, and stockings, quitted the boat and swam on shore, the distance being from 150 to 200 yards.

APPREHENSION OF AN ALLEGED SWINDLER.—William Seabright Chalkley, who, it will be remembered, absconded from Liverpool last year, being a defaulter to the extent of some £40,000 to a loan society, of which he was the secretary and manager, is in the custody of the police at Southampton, where he was apprehended a day or two since. It appears that among his numerous victims was a lady named Skinner, who was a considerable shareholder in the loan society in question, and on whom Chalkley had also forged a bill for £400. Mrs. Skinner has recently removed to Southampton. Walking down the High-street of that town a few days since she met a man whom she recognised to be Chalkley, and he, it would seem, recognised her recognition, for he tried to evade her in every possible way. To effect this object he stepped into a shop, but Mrs. Skinner followed him, and on her saying that she knew him he told her that she must be mistaken. She then said, "I know you very well, your name is Chalkley," when he replied, "No, madam, my name is William Cook."

He immediately went out of the shop and walked up the street, followed by the lady, who gave him into the custody of the first policeman she met. The prisoner was taken before the borough magistrates on Saturday, and has been handed over to the authorities at Liverpool. The prisoner had been living with a relative at Southampton since his return to this country, and on searching the house several letters and documents were found proving his identity. Among these papers is a printed certificate of his admission and recognition as a "local preacher in the Methodist Episcopal Church" in Pennsylvania, where he passed as the "Rev. William S. Cook," and also letters from the pastor of the church, the Rev. W. Thompson, giving "our dear friend William S. Cook" a very high character for "pious," "sound doctrine," and other good qualities.

A WOMAN IN THE BRAIN.—A woman died in the Walsall Workhouse the other day, from a peculiar cause. She went to bed one night complaining of a severe pain in the head. Next morning she was found dead. The surgeon who made the post-mortem examination said that, on opening the head of deceased, he found the veins distended with dark-coloured blood. There were no signs of recent inflammation, but in the ventricles a quantity of sanguineous matter was found, and the brain was softened in places. In the *tuber annularis* at the top of the spinal marrow, where the brain and the spinal marrow join, were four hydatid sacs or *elastic cysts*. These conditions, he considered, were sufficient to account for the suddenness of the death of deceased. He had ascertained from her brother that she had had convulsions a week or two before coming into the workhouse, and he had further ascertained that it was not uncommon for her to eat sausages. The hydatid sac, he had no doubt, was composed of the egg of the tapeworm, the worm having been doubtless taken into the body in process of eating taken into the body forced its way into the various organs—the liver, the head, eyes, and brain—and deposited its egg, and this, again, forced its way wheresoever it could gain most nourishment. In the present instance the hydatid sac, pressing upon the brain at the particular point named, caused death. The jury returned a verdict of "Died of disease of the brain."—*Staffordshire Advertiser*.

DESPERATE FIGHT WITH BURGLARS AT CONGLETON.—On Saturday morning last, between one and two o'clock, a policeman named Taylor and a brother officer named Stanley were going their rounds, they found a man drunk on the pavement, and carried him to his house in Road-lane. The man's son and his wife were sitting up for him, and the former went out to fetch some beer. Being gone a long while, his wife went to meet him, and on her road saw two men jump over the rails inclosing Barton's silk factory. One of the policemen who had brought home her father-in-law being still at hand she informed him of the circumstance, and he went in pursuit of and collared one of them. By this time they had got a considerable distance from the house where Stanley, the other constable, was. A desperate struggle ensued between the two burglars and Taylor: unfortunately the latter could not make his staff available, and, in attempting to secure one of them, the other approached him with a large open clasp-knife, and stabbed him several times in the body. Stanley came up just in time to hear him say, "I'm stabbed, I'm dying!" He was caught in his fellow-officer's arms, and conveyed, bleeding profusely, into Mr. Slater's house. The two thieves made their escape. Several medical gentlemen were called in, and Taylor's case was at once pronounced hopeless. Some of the stabs have penetrated the lungs, whilst others are of such a magnitude and severity as to make it a matter of wonder that he did not die on the spot. There are seven separate wounds, two of them of a very dangerous nature. Five men have since been apprehended on suspicion. Meanwhile it was found that the silk-factory of Mr. Barton, Road-lane, near the place where the affray took place, had been broken into, and two bundles of silk stolen, one of which was picked up near the spot where poor Taylor received his wounds. The injured officer has not been able to look at any of the men at present, and such was his precarious condition on Saturday that the Town Clerk and a magistrate deemed it necessary to take his dispositions. The five suspected men have been taken before a magistrate and remanded for a week.

THE NEW ZEALAND WAR.—The New Zealand War, as we announced last week, is at an end, the Ngatiawa tribe having accepted the following terms:—"1. The investigation of the title and survey of the land at Waitara to be continued and completed without interruption. 2. Every man to be permitted to state his claims without interference, and my decision, or the decision of such persons as I shall appoint, to be conclusive. 3. All the land in possession of Her Majesty's forces belonging to those who have borne arms against her Majesty to be disposed of by me as I may think fit. 4. All guns belonging to the Government to be returned. 5. All plunder taken from the settlers to be forthwith restored. 6. The Ngatiawa who have borne arms against the Government must submit to the Queen and to the authority of the law, and not resort to force for the redress of wrongs, real or imaginary. 7. As I (the Governor) did not use force for the acquisition of land, but for the vindication of the law and for the protection of Her Majesty's native subjects in the exercise of their just rights, I shall divide the land which I have stated my intention to dispose of among its former owners, but I shall reserve the sites of the blockhouses and redoubts, and a small piece of land round each, for the public use, and shall exercise the right of making roads through the Waitara district. On your submission to these terms you will come under the protection of the law, and enjoy your property, both lands and goods, without molestation." W. M. Kingi has retired from the Waitara country without accepting the terms; but his power is broken, and the submission of the Taranika and Ngatiapanui tribes is immediately expected.

PASSPORT REGULATIONS IN BELGIUM.—In answer to inquiries respecting recent alterations in the passport system in Belgium the Belgian Minister for Foreign Affairs has stated to our Envoy at Brussels that the verification of the passport at the frontier is suppressed, but that a foreigner who wishes to be allowed free circulation in that kingdom must prove, if need be, his identity and his nationality; a passport, therefore, is generally necessary; but in the case of English travellers, in consideration of the facilities given to foreigners travelling in Great Britain, the Belgian Government consents that there may be substituted for a passport "any other document which sufficiently establishes the personality or identity of the bearer." An English subject merely travelling through Belgium without passing a night there requires no passport; but he should find himself, owing to exceptional circumstances, in such a position that the authorities might have serious reasons for knowing who he is, he would be required to prove his personality or identity; but these cases are exceedingly rare. When the stay made in the country is for a night only it very seldom happens that the passport or equivalent document is actually demanded.

A COSTLY WORK.—At the Greenwich dinner, a few days ago, Mr. Black read the following statistical paragraph respecting the seventh and eighth editions of the "Encyclopædia Britannica":—"Amount paid to contributors and editors, £40,970; cost of paper, £52,503; of printing and stereotyping, £36,708; of engraving and plate-printing, £118,277; of binding, £22,613; of advertising, £11,081; of miscellaneous items, £2269; making a total cost of £34,421. Of these two editions of the "Encyclopædia Britannica" there have been printed above 10,000 copies. The amount of duty paid upon the paper, calculated at 1½d., was £8573; but 3d. per pound was paid on a considerable part of the seventh edition."

A MELANCHOLY CASE.—Spinks, a sergeant in the Coldstream Guards, and said to be the finest man in the regiment, was engaged to a respectable young woman, and money from their joint earnings had been for some time devoted to a fund for the purchase of his discharge. Unfortunately, he committed some breach of discipline, and was reduced to the ranks; and when called upon parade, the other day, he shot himself with a pistol.

THE BUILDERS' STRIKE.—The master builders held a strike meeting on Thursday week at the Freemasons' Tavern, without, however, coming to any decision. The men, so far as the masons and bricklayers are concerned, say, if the compromise is accepted, they will waive the demand for the nine hours, accepting the Saturday half-day instead. In addition to the firms previously announced as having acceded to the terms of the men, the masons' committee have reported those of Mr. Wren, of Pimlico; Mr. Todd, of Chelsea; and Mr. Fish, of Millbank. Deputations from the men lately in the employ of Messrs. Cubitt, Myers, and other large employers, have had interviews with the heads of the respective firms, and from several favourable replies are expected. The masons at the thirteen firms which have acceded to their terms have all resumed work, and will leave off at twelve o'clock this day under the new system. In answer to the appeal sent out by the masons' committee, promises of considerable pecuniary support have been received from the country for next week. In the meantime the London society rely on its own resources. The bricklayers have up to the present time only withdrawn their men from the following firms—viz., Waller and Son, Holland and Hannen, Mansfield, Ashby and Horner, and the Charing-cross Railway contractor. The plasterers have issued a notice to the trade denying a statement made in some of the papers that they had accepted the hour payment. All their men are still out.

PAUPERISM.—The poor-law returns continue to contrast unfavourably with those of last year. In the last week of April the number of paupers relieved in England and Wales (except a small fraction not under the new poor law) was 836,035, and in the previous year only 806,232, an increase of 3.60 per cent. The increase was greatest in the north midland and west midland counties and in London, but it was considerable also in Yorkshire and in Wales, less in the eastern counties and in Lancashire and Cheshire, least of all in the south-western, the south-midland, and the extreme northern counties. In the more fortunate south-eastern district the balance was slightly on the other side.

THE FORT OF RACH-TRA, OCCUPIED BY THE FRENCH IN COCHIN CHINA.

We have already published some account, with an illustration, of the taking possession of the Annamite position by the French Army of Occupation at Saigon, in Cochinchina, and it would appear that a very great effect has already been produced by the results of the short but brilliant campaign. General de Vassoigne, the military Commandant, was one of the first who was wounded during the attack, but Vice-Admiral Charner led on the troops with that courage and caution which enabled him to sustain a difficult position. The Spanish Contingent, it would appear, sustained the old reputation of the infantry of their country, and bore with true courage the long forced marches over burning plains; and the troops who had so long been garrisoned at Saigon had preserved all the prestige of the French arms.

The trouble as well as loss of men which the French have sustained in Cochinchina, which may be said to be the first boundary of their distant colonies, has now, it is hoped, been somewhat indemnified by the termination by Vice-Admiral Charner of a struggle which was commenced by Rigault de Genouilly; but in order to render the country of commercial or military importance it will be necessary to place at the head of affairs a man of mingled judgment and firmness, who will unite decision to that amenity of manner which is always so necessary in dealing with the Eastern character. Already the people have so far submitted that there is very little present probability of any further revolt on the part of the Annamites, and the late operations of Admiral Charner and his fellow-commanders have given to France a country remarkable not only for the profusion of its natural advantages, but for its geographical and topographical position. The rivers are the great high roads of this fine territory, and, while they enrich the country through which they flow, they possess a regular tide, which is of incalculable advantage as regards commerce. Some of these streams, which are at least a mile in breadth, are navigable for vessels of heavy burden for from eighty to a hundred miles from the coast. It would, indeed, be difficult to find in the Indo-Chinese waters a place possessing greater advantages than Saigon for the formation of a central maritime station. It is equal to all strategic exigencies which are likely to occur; it is capable of being placed in a position of strong defence; there is plenty of suitable timber in the higher parts of the country; and the hill of St. Jacques, situated at the foot of the river, is accessible for a battery which would command both north and south.

The place furnishes numerous valuable articles of export, amongst which may be mentioned salted fish, which is sent away in large quantities, rice, silk, and ivory; while, with the occupation of Mytho, all the commerce of Cambodia passes through the hands of the colonists. The other part of Cochinchina produces annually more than 20,000 tons of rice, and is not unreasonably considered the granary of the extreme eastern district; the other articles of exportation are cotton, silk, tobacco, coconut-oil, and buffalo-horns and hides. Life there, too, is tolerably easy; the manners of the inhabitants are mild; and, but that the climate is too exhausting, France would possess a colony which might well be considered one of the most valuable of European possessions.

THE BEY OF TUNIS TAKING THE OATH OF THE CONSTITUTION IN THE THRONE ROOM AT BARDO.

Recent advices from Tunis recount the brilliant ceremonies which took place on the occasion of his Highness Mohammed Sadok Bey and the great dignitaries of the state having pledged themselves to the Constitution granted in 1857. The rejoicings which followed were not merely a series of Court ceremonies of an official character: the entire population seemed to manifest their attachment to the Sovereign and their recognition of the reforms which he has already so happily effected in his dominions.

The general enthusiasm is a reply to the doubts and fears which have been so often expressed as to the reception which would be given by the prejudiced Mussulmans to the liberal and civilising policy of Sidi Mohammed Sadok. The kingdom of Tunis presents a favourable contrast to other countries where not long ago religious fanaticism expressed itself in acts which seem to belong to another and more barbarous age. It is not a little remarkable that at the moment when the Syrian massacres were calling for active measures the Bey presented himself at Algiers, there to protest against the barbarism of his mistaken and obstinate coreligionists. It would seem, indeed, that this little country is the only spot devoted to Islamism where European influence has effected those changes which convert the people to a regard for order and toleration.

THE SPANISH IN ST. DOMINGO.—The accounts received in England direct from St. Domingo give a very different representation of the state of affairs in that unfortunate country to that which the Madrid papers find it convenient to publish. Instead of popular enthusiasm we read popular "insurrection," and instead of constitutional liberty we receive details of the execution and imprisonment of patriotic citizens and the establishment of military law. Annexation to Spain has inaugurated a reign of terror in St. Domingo.

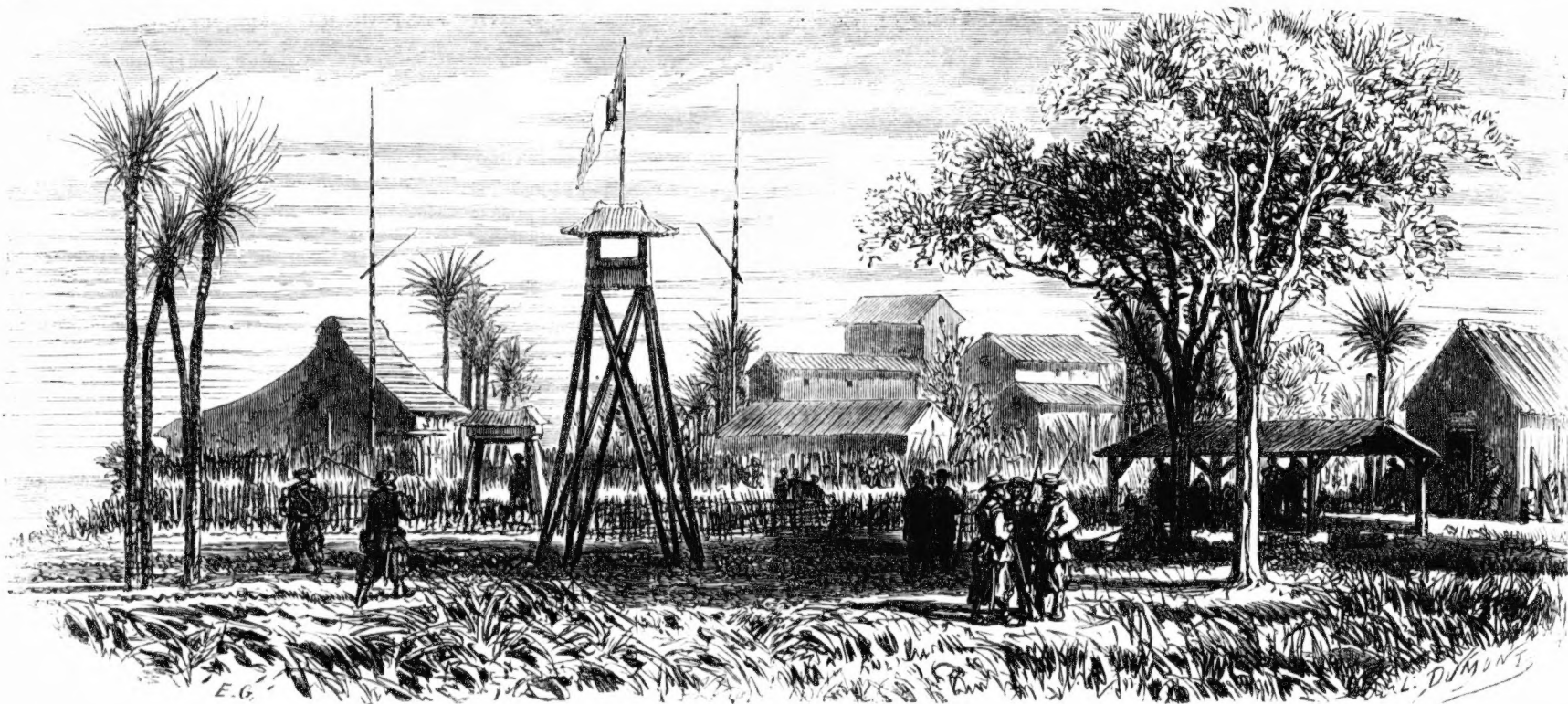
THE FRENCH ARMY AND NAVY.—During a debate in the French Legislature last week it was asserted by M. Olivier and other speakers, and it was tacitly or expressly admitted by the Ministers, that the Navy is at this moment stronger by 110 ships and 12,000 seamen than would appear from the official accounts, and that the Army actually on foot numbers 67,000 men and 12,000 horses in excess of the estimates.

THE SEAT OF THE WAR IN NEW ZEALAND.

We are able this week to publish illustrations representing two other points of interest in the late war in New Zealand. One of them is taken from a sketch of the Te Arai and Pukerangiora Pahs, surrounded by a stockade of which the outer protection is composed of the enemy's rifle-pits and a deep ditch, while another rifle-pit on a mound to the right commands the "sap," which runs from the foreground of the picture as far as the redoubt on the left.

The other Engraving represents the Plain of Kairan, with the River Waitara on the right, beyond the spot occupied by the graves near Huirangi, while the mouth of the river lies in the distance to the right of the blockhouse signal-station standing on the side of the pah which was taken on the 31st of December. More towards the left are the five redoubts, the first of which was erected on the ground occupied by the Kairan pah, which was burned on the 29th of September.

The situation formerly held by the natives on the site of the blockhouse at Matorikoriko was of considerable strength, not only from its natural position on the banks of the river, but also on account of the fortifications—rifle pits and trenches—formed by the enemy. Early on the 29th of December the troops were moved into position, and an entrenched camp was thrown up. The firing lasted twenty-two hours. The native loss was estimated at 135 killed, including 25 women; 70 wounded, and 15 missing; while that of the troops was only 3 killed and 22 wounded. It is said that the natives asked for a truce to bury their dead, and urged also that they did not wish to fight on Sunday (December 30), and that General Pratt yielded. This opportunity was seized by the Waikatos to abandon their stronghold, when the troops took possession. General Pratt in his despatch mentions the retirement of the natives, and the taking possession of the pah, but does not allude to the truce. The Waikatos were driven back into a country which would scarcely feel them, and our troops were in a position to keep them there. Five chiefs were among the killed. In the captured pah a letter was found written by a "friendly native," one of the "native assessors"—that is, a sort of native justice of the peace, who sits with the magistrates to decide native disputes—conveying full intelligence of the movements of the troops. The "sap" was then steadily advanced towards Kingis Pah of Pukerangiora, which



THE FORT OF RACH-TRA, COCHIN-CHINA.

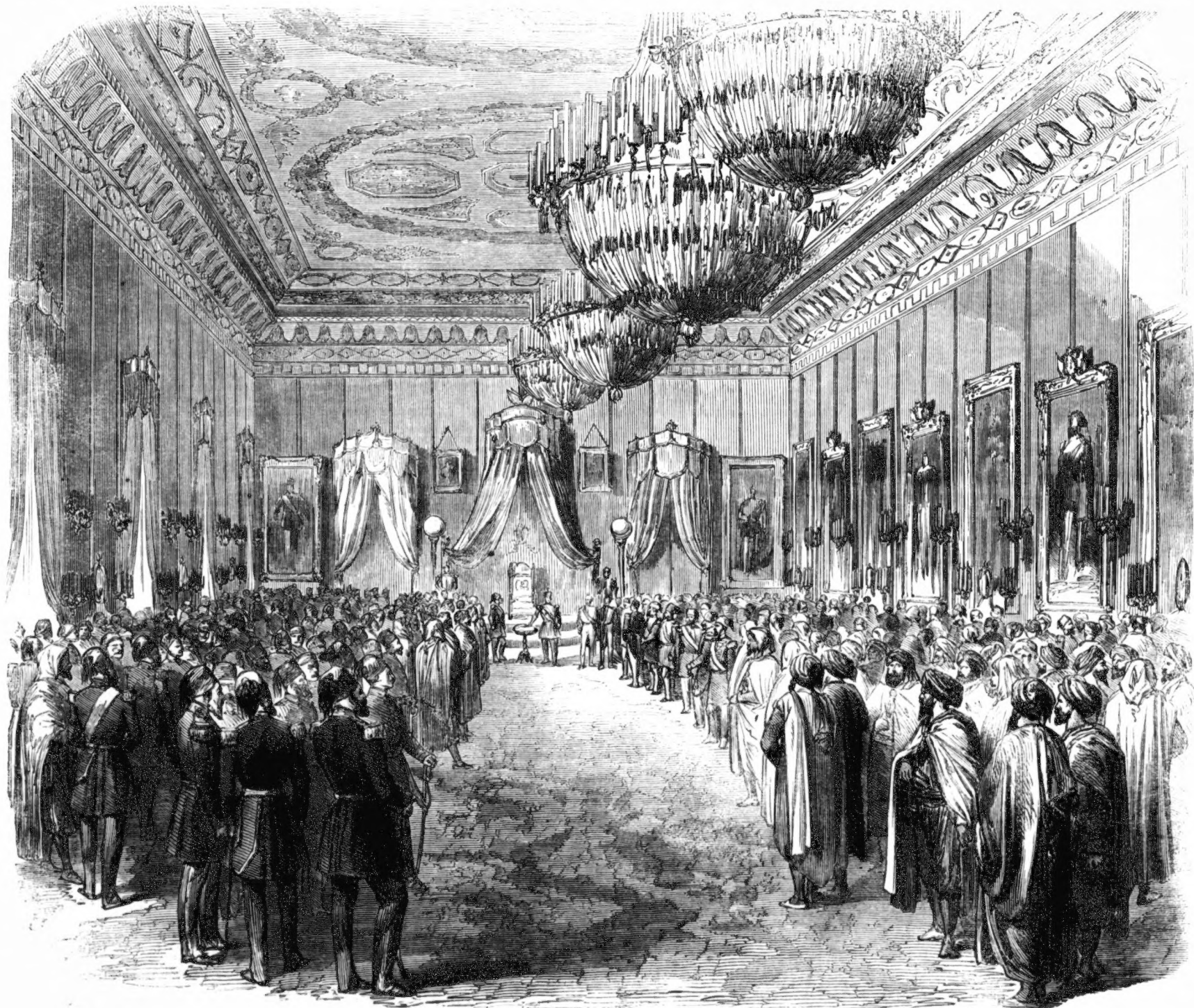
was the stronghold of the Ngatiawa when Taranaki was attacked by the Waikatos some thirty years ago. This pah was situated on the Waitara River, on the left bank, about twelve miles from its mouth. In the war just mentioned between the Ngatiawa and the Waikatos, the pah, with a sort of surrounding suburb, contained from 1200 to 1500 people: of these upwards of 500 were killed, and many eaten; and Te Whero-Whero, then a man of great strength, is said to have killed about fifty with his own hand. Most of the rest were carried away as slaves, but some escaped to the south. In 1845 not a single native occupied Pukerangiora, and probably the

recent pah occupied the site of what may be considered as the citadel of the former pah. The troops advanced their redoubts and fortifications under immense difficulties, as they were continually subject to the heavy fire from the native rifle-pits. Whenever a skirmish took place, however, the enemy was always driven back, and they began to despair of success.

On the 11th of March General Pratt received a communication from Pukerangiora desiring a short truce. This was granted for forty-eight hours, as at the expiration of that time it would leave the General in no worse position than before. His arrangements for

storming the pah were then complete, or nearly so. His sap had advanced to within two hundred yards of the pah, and it was understood that he had determined at the end of the time granted to commence operations. A desire had been evinced by the Waikatos to see an end put to hostilities. They made a proposal to Governor Browne to withdraw the Waikatos if it was agreed to leave the question as it stood before hostilities commenced. The Governor declined to do this.

The latest news has confirmed the opinion of those who thought that the war would speedily end, and the claims of Kingi are no



THE BEY OF TUNIS TAKING THE OATH TO THE CONSTITUTION IN THE THRONE ROOM AT BARDU.



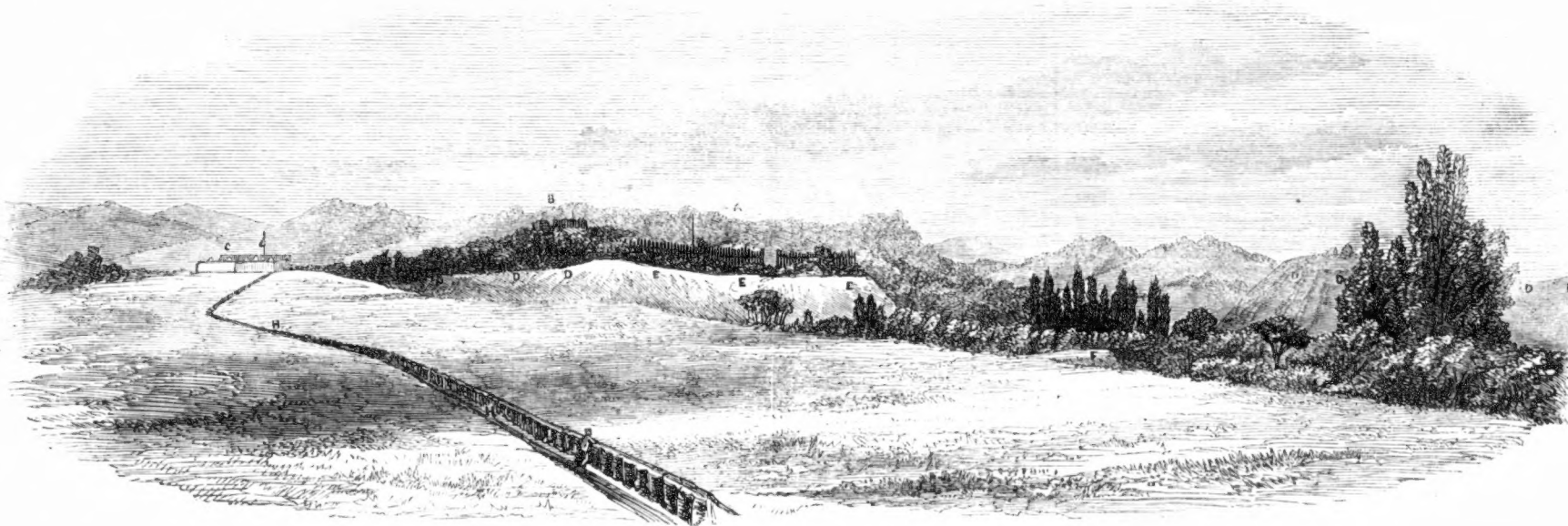
THE WAR IN NEW ZEALAND.—KAIRA PLAIN, SHOWING THE VARIOUS REDOUBTS, WITH THE RIVER WAITARA IN THE DISTANCE.

longer likely to call for a further sacrifice of human life. The references A, B, &c., in our first Illustration are thus explained:—

A. No. 1 Redoubt, erected on the 29th of December, and garrisoned by

the 40th Regiment; now occupied by detachments of the 14th and 57th Regiments; on the site of the old Kairan Pah (burned Sept. 29). B. No. 2 Redoubt, erected on the 14th of January, and occupied by a detachment of the 40th Regiment, under Captain Bowler; now empty. C. No. 3 Redoubt,

completed on the 22nd of January, and garrisoned by the head-quarters of the 40th Regiment; attacked by the enemy, under Te Paul and Hapurona, on the 23rd of January; now empty. D. No. 4 Redoubt, erected on the 27th of January, to protect the Ship, and occupied by a military guard; now

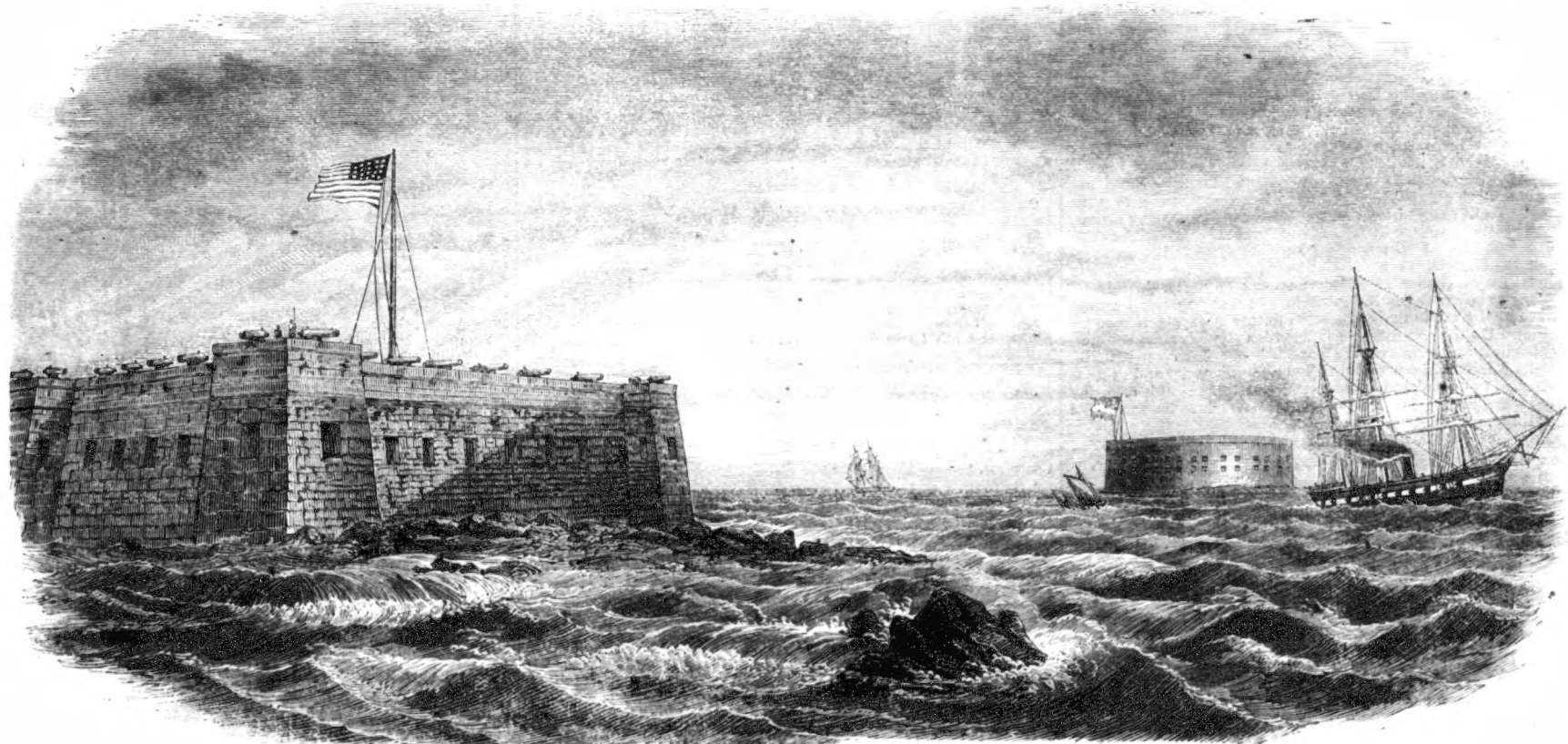


TE AREI PAH, FROM NO. 7 REDOUBT.—(FROM SKETCHES BY LIEUT. REES, 40TH REGIMENT.)

empty. E. No. 5 Redoubt, erected on the 31st of January, and occupied by a detachment of the 40th Regiment, under Captain Richards; now empty. F. Blockhouse and Signal-station on Matarikorika (the site of the pah that was taken on the 31st of December). H. The River Waitara. K. The

Site of the Korih (or Karaka) Pah, burned by Major Nelson on the 3rd of September, 1860. M. The Sap. N. The enemy's Rifle Pits, filled in by us on the 14th of February. P. Gallies and Rifle Pits. R. Position of the Mouth of the Waitara. S. Blockhouse and Signal-station at Puketakaneri.

The following explain the references in our second Illustration:— A. Te Arei Pah. B. Pake-rangiora Pah. C. No. 8 Redoubt. D. Line of the enemy's Rifle Pits. E. Ditch round Pah, with Rifle Pits. F. Mound, with Rifle Pits. H. The Sap.



FORT PICKENS AND FORT M'RAE, PENSACOLA BAY.

FORT PICKENS AND FORT RAE.

THE forts engraved on the preceding page are likely to be heard of frequently in the course of the conflict raging in America. Fort Pickens is situated on the right hand entrance of the Bay of Pensacola, and it remains in the hands of the Federal Government. Fort Rae is just opposite to it, on the extremity of the sandbank called Santa Rosa Island, which for forty-five miles runs in a belt parallel to the shore of Florida, at a distance varying from 1½ to 4 miles. Beyond it, on the shore, is Barrancas, a square-faced work, half a mile further up the channel, and more immediately facing Fort Pickens. A thick wood crowns the low shore which trends away to the eastward, but amid the sand the glass can trace the outlines of batteries. Pretty-looking detached houses line the beach; some loftier edifices gather close up to the shelter of a tall chimney which vomits out clouds of smoke, and a few masts and spars chequer the white fronts of the large buildings and sheds, which, with a big shears, indicate the position of the navy-yard of Warrington, commonly called that of Pensacola, although the place of that name lies several miles higher up the creek.

Along with Barrancas, Fort Rae was seized by Confederate troops, and is now in their hands; and they desire to get possession of Fort Pickens too, which is much the more valuable possession. Fort Rae seems to have sunk at the foundations, the crowns of many of the casemates are cracked, and the water-face is poor-looking. Fort Pickens, on the contrary, is a solid, substantial-looking work, and reminds one something of Fort Paul at Sebastopol, as seen from the sea, except that it has only one tier of casemates, and is not so high.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 164.

A NEW DANGER.

On the 6th of April, 1780, Mr. Dunning moved the famous historic resolution in the House of Commons, "That the influence of the Crown has increased, is increasing, and ought to be diminished." And there are men now living—Lord Palmerston for example, and Sir Charles Burrell, the father of the House, who have been in Parliament fifty-five consecutive years—who remember the time when George III. had made the Crown again almost absolute. But how has all this changed? We are now in no danger of an absolute Monarchy, but rather of an absolute House of Commons. Indeed, one of the profoundest thinkers of modern times—to wit, Mr. John Stuart Mill—distinctly points out that this is a danger ahead, and shows us that if the House should become an executive body, as it seems inclined to do, good government will be an impossibility. However this may be, it is surely a strange sight that we see now, to wit, the House of Commons interfering with and overhauling all the doings of the Executive, from the management of the Army down to the dismissal of a post-office clerk; and, still stranger, the representatives of the people attempting to force upon an unwilling Government a flagrant job. For years the House of Commons, or at least a large party in that House, resolutely and bravely fought against the jobbery and mismanagement of corrupt Governments. But now we see a large party banded together to compel the Government to perpetrate a job and commit a gross act of corruption. Such are the changes changing time doth bring.

MR. GREGORY.

Mr. William Henry Gregory, who introduced the motion on Friday se'night for a Committee to inquire into the withdrawal of the Galway contract, is member for Galway; and hence, of course, much of the zeal and ardour which he has manifested in this cause. Had he been the member for an English borough it is more than probable that his enthusiasm would have been less fervid. Mr. Gregory, too, lives near Galway, at Coole Park, where his father lived before him. He is, too, a magistrate of his county, and has been its High Sheriff. Whether Mr. Gregory is really Hibernian we have no means of knowing; we should say from external evidences that he is not. His name is not specially Irish; he has not the fervour nor the humour of an Irishman. There is nothing Irish in his features. He has no Irish peculiarities of speech; and he is a far better reasoner than Irish speakers generally are. Perhaps, however, his English education may account for both these latter peculiarities; for he was educated at Harrow, and graduated at Christchurch, Oxford. As it was known that the Galway contract had been cancelled, Mr. Gregory sounded the alarm and mustered his forces to battle—as, of course, it was the duty of the member for Galway to do; and on Friday week he brought forward his motion. Mr. Gregory is a very good speaker—fluent and chaste in language, calm but effective in manner; and, if he does not often move the House to enthusiasm, he is always listened to with attention. His speech on Friday night was able, ingenious, and temperate, and, considering that he had not a very good case, may be said to have been a success. His adroitness in sliding over the questionable parts of his case, as a skater glides swiftly over thin ice, was very noticeable and clever. Whilst we were listening to Mr. Gregory we more and more suspected that he is not a genuine Hibernian. He was so calm, so dispassionate, reasoned so lucidly that we could not persuade ourselves that it was an Irishman speaking. If Mr. Gregory was born in Ireland, we should say, as Mr. Blake said of Lord Palmerston later in the debate, that he was "born out of his native land." There is a story told about Mr. Gregory, in connection with this Galway business, which is so good that we must record it, although we confess that it is not well authenticated. Mr. Gregory, since the establishment of the Galway Company, has been to the United States; and when it was known that he was going it was confidently expected that he would patronise the Galway Company. But no; he would do no such thing. He was an earnest promoter of the company, and wished it all imaginable success; but to trust himself in one of their ships was an experiment which he could not bring himself to submit to. "No! I will subscribe to your company. I will everywhere chant its praises, advocate its claims, and defend its responsibility. I will urge the Government to grant it a subsidy. I will marshal my forces, and risk an overthrow of the Minister or a dissolution. But when you ask me to trust myself upon the raging Atlantic in one of your ships—hem! I must beg to be excused. My faith in you is strong, but I cannot consent to justify my faith by my works to this extent." Nor do we blame him. On the contrary, we applaud his sagacity and prudence. It is enough that he forsook his party when called upon to do so, hazarded a Ministerial crisis, and risked the annoyance and expense of an election to defend and promote the interests of this company and to secure justice for Ireland; but to risk his life was quite another thing.

A HOLY BROTHERHOOD.

The union of the Irish members upon the Galway question is unprecedented. Search all the journals, and you will find nothing like it upon record. Truly may it be said that when the Irish do agree their unanimity is wonderful. Usually, when Hibernian questions come before the House, we have as many different opinions as we have Irish members; and the announcement of an Irish topic of debate is almost always the signal for an Irish row. But now a common wrong has produced a harmony, or rather a unison, of voices, the like of which was never heard before. The lion of ultramontaniam, Mr. Hennessy, lies down with Mr. Whiteside, the meek Protestant lamb; the fierce O'Donoghue, who rejoiced but lately over the death of Cavour and goes in for "repale," would embrace an Irish favourer of Italian nationalities if such a man could be found; and Conservatives and Radicals rush frantically into each other's arms. Indeed, the same feeling extends all over Ireland, and we should not be surprised to hear that John Tuam had openly fallen upon the neck of Bishop Plunkett and embraced him as a brother. Perhaps some of our readers may think that we have

exaggerated the feeling of Irish members. Let them, however, note the fact and doubt no more. An Irish Lord of the Treasury (Mr. Bagwell) has thrown up his place and joined the united band; and at this moment an office, with but trifling duties attached and a salary of £1000 a year, is positively going a-begging because no Irishman can be found base enough to take this nice little sinecure on condition that he shall forsake the united Irishmen and join his country's foes. Indeed, such is the temper of all Ireland just now that if an Irishman could be found to take it he could not retain it, for, of course, he must go to his constituents, and not an angel from heaven would be returned to Parliament unless he pledged himself to vote against the Government and in favour of the Galway contract. Surely, the great Dan, or even St. Patrick himself, never worked a greater miracle than this. But, if this union be astonishing, is the cause of it less so? We have heard of national solemn leagues and covenants, but was there ever before an instance of a solemn league and covenant being entered into to support "a commercial sham," and to throw its shield over a defaulting contractor? Something new under the sun has come at last.

MR. BAXTER.

After Mr. Gregory came Lord John Russell, but, as he had little to tell more than the House knew, after certain personal explanations were finished, the House got restless and fidgety. Indeed, we may say here that Lord John does not hold the House he used to do, excepting when he is talking upon some special matters. The reason is that he has got into a habit of talking in such a low tone that nobody can hear him well except those who sit immediately before him; and, whether in the House of Commons or in Exeter Hall, or in church or chapel, if a speaker cannot be well heard, the audience will get fidgety, restless, and inattentive. But when Lord John dropped into his seat, and the spare form of Mr. Baxter was seen to emerge from the mass on the right of the Speaker, the House hushed down into silence, order, and attention at once. And it was quite natural that it should do so; for, in the first place, Mr. Baxter has gradually secured a reputation in the House. He is not an orator, but he is a plain, practical, sensible speaker—a man who never speaks but when he has something to say, and who can say what he means to say in a clear, straightforward, and effective manner; and on this occasion there was a still further reason why the House should be attentive. Mr. Baxter is himself a merchant and ship-owner, and knows, therefore, what a ship ought to be, has himself been more than once across the Atlantic, and is practically acquainted with the requirements of the voyage, and is generally a man of business habits, with a mercantile experience, and all the shrewd insight which is specially the characteristic of your successful merchant "ayont the Tweed." All this was present to minds of the members when Mr. Baxter rose, and no wonder that they settled down into quietude to listen to what he had to say. They had heard one side of the question; Mr. Baxter was about to show them the other. And what an exposure it was! Never in our experience have we heard anything more damaging, more crushing, more effective. One by one Mr. Baxter took up every fallacy and misrepresentation and exposed it; one by one he took up the company's ships, related their history, described their mishaps, and showed their condition, and at length so effectively tore off the veil and dispersed all that halo of misrepresentation which had gathered round the Galway Company and its doings, that the Irishmen themselves could not refrain from joining in the bursts of laughter which greeted the exposure. Before Mr. Baxter rose there was certainly a feeling in the House that things were not so bad as they seemed, and that possibly the Postmaster-General had been rather too hard upon the company. But all this was gone when Mr. Baxter sat down. The mists were dispelled—the mask was torn off—and such a wreck and ruin lay before us as the world has scarcely ever seen before. The rest of the proceedings we need not describe. The speech of Mr. Baxter was the speech of the evening. All the rest was mere idle talk: illusion was destroyed, the company and its pretensions were smashed, and all the Irish eloquence in the world could not alter the facts. A committee to inquire was granted, but it will not, cannot, lead to anything but fresh exposures. Indeed, if the Irishmen were wise, they would not proceed further in this business, for if ever there was a case that must be the worse for stirring this is one.

PAINLESS EXTINCTION.

The theory of a count-out is that it is not right to transact the business of an empire when there are less than forty members in the House; but in practice a count-out is used to stop disagreeable discussions, and quietly to put an extinguisher upon meddlesome ones. On Tuesday night last Lord Robert Montagu was prepared with a speech as long as your arm upon the exceedingly perplexed question of Schleswig Holstein. Now, there were two fatal objections to this speech—one to the subject and another to the speaker. The subject is not an inviting one, the speaker is not popular; and so it was determined to get rid of both by the well-known expedient of a count-out. And the thing was not difficult to accomplish, for at six o'clock, when the House resumed after a money sitting, there were not more than seventy members present. At seven the number had dwindled down to forty; at half-past seven it had sunk to thirty, and then, whilst the noble Lord was still haranguing in his forcibly-feeble manner, some one crept to the Speaker's chair and whispered in his ear. Suddenly up rose Mr. Speaker and down dropped my Lord. A few members rushed in, hoping to save the House; but it was no go, only thirty-eight could be mustered, and the noble Lord had to pack up his papers for a more convenient season. The *Times* makes out that this was a night wasted; but would it have been less wasted if the debate had gone on?

COUNT CAVOUR ON RESIGNING OFFICE.—As everything connected with the great Italian statesman who has just died is peculiarly interesting at present, we here transcribe the following passages of a letter addressed by him, on the 24th, 1859, to M. de Calonne, and published in the new number of the *Revue Contemporaine*. Count Cavour, it will be remembered, had just resigned office in consequence of the peace of Villafranca:—"This course," he says in his letter, "has neither been dictated to me by anger nor by discouragement. I am full of faith in the future success of the cause for which I have hitherto contended, and I am still ready to devote to it the life and strength I still possess; but I feel a deep conviction that my participation in politics at this moment, to any degree, would be detrimental to my country. Its fate has been given into the hands of diplomacy. Now, I am in bad odour with diplomatists; my demise is so agreeable to them that its effects will be to render them more favourable to those unhappy populations of Central Italy whose destiny they are to fix. There are circumstances in which a statesman cannot bring himself too much in view; there are others in which the interest of the cause he serves requires that he should retire into the shade. The present circumstances require this of me."

"ORDER OF THE DAY" AGAINST SUICIDES.—Marshal Magnan has issued an order of the day to the Army of Paris against suicides, which, in phraseology not perhaps altogether happy, he says have been lately "too" numerous. He reminds the soldiers that their lives belong to their country, which relies upon them in the day of danger. "Whenever," he tells them, "you find your minds agitated by fatal ideas, whenever you feel yourselves unequal to the trials you have to meet, come and see me; you know that I am always accessible; come and tell me your troubles. My soldiers' heart will understand yours, will recall you to a sentiment of duty, and preserve your lives for your family, for France, and for the Emperor, who loves and trusts you." This language will be thought ridiculous in France. It may very likely please the soldier, who loves to be addressed in familiar language by his chiefs. It is visit to the Marshal will collect any inconvenient crowd of private soldiers at the door of his headquarters in the Place Vendôme. Courage in the face of death is an ordinary quality in the French army, but the nerve required to ask for an interview with the Commander-in-Chief to talk over love affairs, tavern debts, and barrack grievances, instead of committing suicide about them, must be rare indeed.

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, JUNE 11.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

SHIP DEFENCE.

Lord HARDWICKE called the attention of the House to the respective merits of bar and plate iron in resisting the force of the Armstrong gun. The Duke of SOMERSET stated that the subject was of considerable importance, and that a scientific committee was now sitting upon the subject.

Their Lordships adjourned at an early hour.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE GALWAY CONTRACT.

On going into Committee of Supply, Mr. GREGORY moved for a Select Committee to inquire into the circumstances attending the termination by the Postmaster-General of the postal contract with the Royal Atlantic Steam Navigation Company. Having first expressed his regret that Lord J. Russell had not as frankly as Lord Palmerston stated that he was mistaken with regard to the conduct of the Irish members on the recent party division, he went at length into the question of the Galway contract, and contended that it was a national and not an Irish question, the advantages of departure for America from Ireland being patent for all Imperial purposes; and that the company had not been treated with the leniency to which they were entitled.

Lord J. RUSSELL, referring to Mr. Gregory's observations on him, justified his course in disclaiming an assertion that a bargain had been made between the Government and the Irish members on this subject of the Galway contract. He, however, accepted the disclaimer which had been made. Without going further into the immediate subject, he stated that the Government would accede to the motion.

Mr. BAXTER supported the motion, on the ground that inquiry was necessary. He was hostile to the Galway contract only on the general ground of his objection to the granting of subsidies, and he equally objected to other contracts. While fully admitting that Ireland was entitled to direct postal communication with America, he argued that the Galway Company was nothing less than a commercial sham, was hopelessly insolvent, and had but one ship in their possession, while the steamers which had been built for them had proved failures and inadequate to the service; and the service had failed altogether as regarded the keeping of time.

Sir H. CAIRNS contended that it was known that the company had recently changed hands, was under the direction of men of capital and enterprise, and was perfectly solvent. As regarded the ships which were built, they were passed by the Government surveyor, and therefore the remarks of Mr. Baxter on these points was most unfair, especially on the eve of a judicial inquiry, which he (Sir H. Cairns) was of opinion was necessary.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, expressing his unwillingness to enter into a controversial debate, which, as the Committee was to be agreed to, need not have been raised, proceeded generally to criticise Mr. Gregory's speech, and to defend the course taken by the Postmaster-General, urging that it was not the intention of the Government to treat the company with anything but justice and liberality, and that everything should be conceded which could fairly be conceded.

Lord DUNKELIN, Mr. HENNESSY, Mr. CLAY, Mr. BLAKE, Colonel FRENCH, and Lord NAAS having spoken,

Mr. CARDWELL expressed his satisfaction that this matter was to be referred to a Select Committee. He corrected a statement of Lord Naas, to the effect that a decision of the Government was not communicated to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. The general decision was reported to him; but, if it had not, this was as much or more an Imperial as an Irish question.

A long discussion ensued, in the course of which Mr. B. OSBORNE said that Mr. Baxter had stated that when the Hibernia was surveyed she showed symptoms of weakness. If the Government were surveyed it would be found that they were in a similar condition in reference to this question. He protested against Mr. Baxter's statement that the Galway Company was insolvent, forgetting that it had been reorganised, and was now directed by men of wealth and position. He thought that a larger question was involved than that of the Galway contract—that of the mode in which Ireland was governed. She expected to share in the benefits which were spread over England and Scotland.

Mr. DISRAELI pointed out the very different circumstances under which a Committee on the Galway contract was moved for this year as compared with that which was proposed last year. He then proceeded, in emphatic language and with great vehemence, to vindicate the policy of Lord Derby's Government in this matter, and to tunc the present Ministry with their unjust accusation of general corruption against that Government, as well as with their vacillating conduct and weakness, by which they alienated their own supporters, and which had raised this question to the height of a vote of want of confidence. In fact, the decision of the Committee would be a review of the policy of the Government with regard to Ireland.

Lord PALMERSTON said that it would excite no surprise that Mr. Disraeli should express indignation and grief at finding that the acts of the Government to which he belonged should meet with public censure, but it was a little surprising that those feelings should have been pent up until now. He severely reprobated an observation of Mr. Disraeli, that the late Mr. Stafford had been hunted to death by the party opposed to him. He justified the course pursued by the Government with regard to the Galway contract in every respect; and now, in referring it to a Committee, which was the acceptance of a reasonable proposal, he repudiated the accusation that the Government was indifferent to the interests of Ireland, which the condition of that country deserved.

Lord J. MANNESE replied to some observations by Lord Palmerston upon the death of the late Mr. Augustus Stafford, a subject first introduced by Mr. Disraeli with strong comments upon his treatment by the party opposed to him when in office, and the effect of this treatment on Mr. Stafford's health.

Mr. H. HERBERT and Mr. NEWDEGATE touched upon the same delicate topic.

MONDAY, JUNE 17.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE GALWAY CONTRACT.

Lord NORMANBY asked Lord GRANVILLE whether he adhered to his statement that no official communication had passed between the Government and the Lord Lieutenant on the subject of the Galway subsidy?

Lord GRANVILLE replied in the affirmative, stating, at the same time, that communications had passed, but they were not of an official nature, and would not, therefore, be laid before Parliament.

After a few remarks from Lords OLANCARTY and LEITHAM, the subject dropped.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

BLONDIN.

In answer to Sir G. FORSTER, Sir G. C. LEWIS said his attention had been called to the fact of a child of tender years having been exposed to great danger in an exhibition at the Crystal Palace, and he had written to the directors a letter of warning, which he trusted would prevent the repetition of such an exhibition.

DISTRIBUTION OF PARLIAMENTARY SEATS.

The House having resolved itself into a Committee on the Appropriation of Seats (Sudbury and St. Albans) Bill, resumed the consideration of its clauses.

The words "parishes of Chelsea and Kensington" having been struck out of the third clause by a vote of the Committee when last under discussion.

Mr. T. DUNCOMBE moved to supply the hiatus by inserting "the borough of Burnley."

Sir G. LEWIS, admitting the claims of Burnley, observed that by giving one of the seats to that borough all the four seats would be distributed over a limited area, and therefore declined to support the motion.

Mr. SCULLY urged the claims of the county of Cork. Mr. AYTON complained that the Government embarrassed and bewildered the Committee by allowing the seat to be scrambled for; they should say what they intended to do. He moved that the Chairman report progress.

Sir G. LEWIS said the difficulty into which the Committee had fallen was not created by the Government; it had arisen from the form of the motion adopted by the Committee to omit certain words in the clause without proposing to substitute any others. "The Government would be prepared to support the proposition to assign a third member to Middlesex when that proposition (of which notice had been given) should be made."

After a desultory debate, Mr. Duncombe and Mr. Aytton withdrew their respective motions, and the Committee divided upon a motion by Mr. Knightley, to amend the clause so as to give an additional member to the county of Middlesex, which was negatived by 236 to 186.

Lord PALMERSTON then suggested that the Committee should agree to the third seat being allotted to Birkenhead, as proposed by the next clause, and that four members should be given to the West Riding of Yorkshire, and he thought it better that the riding should be divided.

Mr. SCULLY moved that the Chairman report progress.

Sir G. LEWIS observed that, as no objection had been offered to the clause, he hoped the Committee would not stop the discussion. On the report he would, he said, bring up a new clause giving a fourth member to the West

Riding of Yorkshire, separated into two divisions. The Government did not ask for delay, which would not assist the measure.

The motion for reporting progress was ultimately negatived, and, upon a division, the fourth clause, assigning a seat to Birkenhead, was carried by 163 to 26.

The remaining clauses were agreed to, with certain verbal amendments. Notices were given of amendments to be moved on the next stage of the bill.

COUNTY SURVEY.

On the motion for going into Committee on the County Survey (Ireland) Bill, Mr. V. SCULLY moved its rejection.

A very long discussion ensued; but on a division the amendment of Mr. Scully was negatived by 152 to 53.

The House then went into Committee on the bill, and some progress was made.

Other bills were advanced a stage.

TUESDAY, JUNE 18.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE BANKRUPTCY BILL.

On the motion for the third reading of the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Bill, Lord DERRY asked her Majesty's Government whether it was their intention to support in the House of Commons the amendments of the Select Committee to which they had made no objections in the House of Lords?

In any case he hoped that any amendments of the House of Commons would be sent up in time to receive a full discussion at the hands of their Lordships, and not be postponed to the far end of the Session.

Lord GRANVILLE could not undertake on the part of the Government to give any assurance as to the course the House of Commons might pursue in regard to the bill. If the House of Commons were to amend the amendments of the House of Lords, it would be the duty of the Government to return the Bill to their Lordships at as early a period as the public business would admit.

Lord OVERSTON and Lord LYNDEN both expressed their approval of the amendments, and especially that which struck out the provisions creating a Chief Judge.

The Lord CHANCELLOR expressed his continued opinion that the measure could not work without the appointment of some such functionary.

Lord CRANWORTH, as the member of the Committee to move to strike out that particular clause, expressed a very decided opinion as to the uselessness of such a Judge; in which Lord Wensleydale concurred.

The bill was read a third time and passed.

GREENWICH HOSPITAL.

On the order of the day for going into Committee on the Greenwich Hospital Bill,

Lord HARDWICKE protested against the bill, because, instead of rescuing the hospital from political control, it proposed to hand it over more than ever to the Lords of the Admiralty. He proposed, as a remedy, that the Crown should appoint a body of independent gentlemen to be commissioners and trustees, to hold the estates and properties of the hospital, adding, if they liked, two Ministers of the Crown.

The Duke of SOMERSET explained that the only purpose of the bill was to put the hospital and its funds under a better system of management, to reduce the expenses, and to increase the benefits to the invalid seamen.

The Earl of DERRY said that the main weakness of the bill was that it did not sufficiently distinguish between the management of the estates and the internal management. He suggested that the advowsons belonging to the hospitals should be sold, and the proceeds devoted to the establishment.

The bill then passed through Committee, after a brief discussion.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

HARBOURS.

On the motion for going into Committee on the Harbours Bill, the object of which is to enable the Government to advance money for the purpose of forming harbours of refuge, and for abolishing passing tolls, and granting compensation for those imposed, a discussion was raised by Mr. LINDSAY, who drew attention to the alterations which had been made in the bill since the second reading. He pointed out some of these alterations, and dwelt upon the large sums proposed to be given to corporations and others as compensations for the abolition of tolls and differential dues, in addition to the sums already received. By Bill No. 1 the amount of these compensations was £250,000; but Mr. GIBSON had now come down with Bill No. 2, which swelled the amount to £500,000; and he protested, in the name of his constituents, against the payment of such enormous sums, from which they derived no benefit whatever.

In the discussion which ensued, among the objections urged were the essential difference between this bill and that which had been first introduced; the extent to which it affected private interests, whereby it was brought nearly within the rules applicable to private bills; and the impediments it would offer to the improvement of tidal harbours and the formation of refuge harbours; but the majority of the objections referred to particular clauses and details of the bill.

The House then went into Committee, and clauses up to 6 were agreed to.

DENMARK AND THE DUCHIES.

Lord R. MONTAGU moved an address to her Majesty praying that she will take such measures as may be necessary to prevent any foreign interference with the ancient hereditary rights of succession in the kingdom of Denmark and the Duchies of Schleswig-Holstein. He contended that the union of Schleswig and Holstein had existed time out of mind, and that continued intrigues had been used to drive the German element out of the Duchies and to incorporate them with Denmark. He protested against a treaty which had been entered into in 1850 by the great Powers, by which, after the death of the present King of Denmark, no less than nineteen heirs to the throne were to be passed over, for the purpose of vesting the succession in a Prince married to a Grand Duchess of Russia, thus bringing the heirship to the throne within three of the Emperor of Russia.

The House was counted out while the noble Lord was speaking, at twenty minutes to eight.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE WINDOW-CLEANING BILL.

Sir C. BURRELL moved the second reading of the Window-cleaning, &c., Bill, stating the reasons, founded on humanity, which had induced him to reintroduce this measure, although it had failed last Session.

Sir F. GOLDSMID moved to defer the second reading for three months. After a short discussion, the amendment was carried by 79 to 38; so the bill is lost.

CHURCH RATES.

Sir J. TRELAWNY, in moving that the Church-rates Abolition Bill be read a third time, noticed certain points with the view of obviating objections, remarking that, as all now seemed to be of opinion that relief should be given to Dissenters in this matter, he had practically no opponent as regarded the principle of the measure.

Mr. COLLIER reviewed the proposed bill of Mr. S. ESTCOURT, and stated his objections to what he termed his scheme for stereotyping church rates, which changed the incidence of the tax, making it not a personal charge, but a charge upon the land; and, so far from being a measure of relief from church rates, it would render them permanent. There was, in his opinion, only one way of dealing with this tax—its abolition.

Mr. S. ESTCOURT, after replying to the objections offered by Mr. Collier to his proposed scheme, said he objected to Sir J. Trelawny's bill on two main grounds. In the first place, it prohibited parishioners from exercising a mode of local self-government coeval with the earliest period of our legislation, putting an end to an old common law right. This was an inherent vice of the bill. Then, in the next place, the bill, in its present stage, stood in the way of a practical solution of the question, precluding every attempt at compromise, and shutting the door against an amicable arrangement, which it was desirable to keep open to the last. Without discussing the scheme he had offered ineffectually as a compromise, he adverted to what he considered to be the principle upon which such an arrangement should be based. The only safe course was to depart as little as possible from the old principle of church rate. Allow every man to exempt himself personally from an obligation to support a Church of which he was not a member, and adopt this principle in the form least offensive. The bill now before the House prevented any such arrangement and all mutual concessions; it was, therefore, better that it should be stopped, and he moved to defer the third reading for three months.

This amendment was seconded by Lord R. CREIL. He denied that this bill was one of liberty or of enfranchisement; it was, he said, a bill of disfranchisement and of pains and penalties.

Mr. H. LEWIS, in a first speech, supported the bill, which, he was convinced, would confer a great boon on the Church of England.

Mr. CROSS concurred with Mr. Estcourt that the only practical way of settling the question was by personal exemption; and he proposed that all persons who objected to pay church rates should have an opportunity of saying so, and be exempt without declaring themselves to be Dissenters. The bill stood in the way of a measure to carry out this settlement, and he should support the amendment.

Sir G. LEWIS observed that the objection to church rates was a conscientious objection, which he believed to be sincere, and it was impossible to offer a valid argument against a conscientious objection. On the other hand, it was urged that by the abolition of church rates the essence of an Established Church would be annihilated. This objection, he thought, after what had been done in Ireland, had not sufficient weight. He was prepared

to vote for the third reading of the bill. At the same time he was quite ready to enter into a discussion of other proposals. His objection to the proposal of Mr. Cross was that it would reduce a church rate to a voluntary contribution, depriving it of the character of a rate, the principle of which was that it should be general and compulsory, while it would concede the whole doctrine upon which the bill was founded. He (Sir George) would propose a plan which would begin by laying the charge upon those who were members of the Church, and who testified the same by attending the church. Some objection might be made to the term "pew-rents," but it seemed to him that a rate might be so imposed, that it should be compulsory, and that it should provide a sufficient fund for maintaining the fabric of the church.

Mr. NEWDEGATE vindicated a proposition he had formerly made for a substitute for church rates, and opposed the third reading of the bill.

Mr. BUXTON approved the proposal of Mr. Cross.

Mr. BRIGHT said all the plans which had been proposed did not hit the grievance. The object was to get rid of every shred of what the Dissenters regarded as the supremacy of the Church of England in relation to this particular question; to place the Church and other sects in that respect upon an equality. The resistance to church rates was not grounded upon the amount; there must be something deeper in the matter than money. He was going, he said, to vote for the third reading of the bill; but he was ready to assent to a compromise by which the compulsory power of levying the rate should be withdrawn and the term of total abolition delayed.

Mr. HUBBARD addressed the House for a short time amidst interruptions. Mr. STANSFELD observed that this question was one of policy rather than of principle. It was totally distinct from that of a separation of the Church from the State. No scheme of compromise had been, or could be, proposed that would not be objectionable and degrading to Dissenters; and he believed that all attempts would be vain, mischievous, and dangerous.

Mr. WHITBREAD accused Sir G. LEWIS of inconsistency, professing himself utterly unable to reconcile his logic with his vote. He denied that this was a question of policy merely; it was a question of principle. An aggressive movement was made against the Established Church, and the opposition proceeded from a desire to maintain the old principles of the Constitution.

Upon a division, the numbers proved to be equal:

Ayes	274
Noes	274

The SPEAKER, in giving the casting vote, explained in a few sentences the reasons why he thought, in this stage of the bill, he should best discharge his duty by giving his voice with the "Noes"—that is, against the bill being "now" read a third time.

The bill is, consequently, lost.

THURSDAY, JUNE 20.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

This being the anniversary of her Majesty's accession to the throne their Lordships did not assemble.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

CHURCH RATES.

Mr. CROSS gave notice that on Monday next he would move for leave to bring in a bill to amend the law of church rates.

THE BANKRUPTCY BILL.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL, in answer to Mr. VANCE, said he had not yet been able to consider the Lords' amendments to the Bankruptcy Bill which were considered in a Select Committee.

MR. KING HARMER.

Mr. LAWSON asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether it was true that Mr. King Harmer was on the 12th of June committed to the House of Correction for ten days, but was liberated by a warrant from the Home Office before the expiration of his sentence, and contrary to the advice and opinion of the committing magistrate; and, if so, whether the Secretary of State for the Home Department had any objection to state to the House the grounds on which he recommended her Majesty to exercise her prerogative of pardon?

Sir G. LEWIS said it was not usual to ask the grounds upon which a recommendation was made to the Crown for the exercise of the prerogative of pardon, and he was reluctant to enter fully upon a matter of this nature. He might state to the House that Mr. Harmer was brought before a magistrate in London, and charged with having created a disturbance at Cremorne. He was fined by the magistrate, after a remand of a week, bail having been refused by the magistrate, which led to his imprisonment for five days. The magistrate thought that a second information should be laid for resistance to the police, a course which the police authorities did not think necessary, and the magistrate convicted on it, and sentenced Mr. Harmer to ten days' imprisonment. An application was made to him (Sir G. Lewis) on account of the unnecessary length of the imprisonment, and it appeared to him that after he had suffered two days' imprisonment on the second charge the justice of the case had been sufficiently met.

THE TEMPORALITIES OF THE POPE.

Mr. GRIFFITH asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether he had received any account that the Senator Hecker had lately arrived at Paris from Vienna as the bearer of a secret and confidential proposition from the Emperor Francis Joseph to the Emperor Napoleon to the effect that the two Emperors would co-operate to form an independent army for the protection of the temporalities of the Pope, and will engage to prevent Piedmont from entering the States of the Church, and whether a letter published as from Baron Ricasoli is authentic, in which, without denying the report, he was stated to say, "I am confident we shall checkmate all intrigues. My inflexibility and calmness are equal to the right which I defend."

Lord J. RUSSELL said that, with regard to the peculiar question as to Senator Hecker and his proposition, the Foreign Office had received no information; but it would not be a complete answer if he were not to say that he had received information from the French Ambassador in London stating that a proposal had been made to the French Government by the Austrian and Spanish Ambassadors in Paris that the Powers should act in concert in support of the temporalities of the Pope; but there had been no mention of arms, and the proposal was answered in the negative.

EAST INDIA COUNCIL BILL.

The House then went into Committee on this bill, the discussion of which lasted the remainder of the night.

CURIOUSITIES OF THE CENSUS.—The Registrar-General estimates the number of English emigrants from the United Kingdom in the ten years between 1851 and 1861 at 640,210, and returns the number of registered births over registered deaths in the same period at 2,260,376. This would leave an increase of 1,620,366; but the actual augmentation enumerated on April 8 was 2,134,116, showing that 513,750 births must have passed unregistered in the ten years. It appears that the population of London is nearly equal to that of the twenty leading provincial towns, having a population of 70,000 and upwards—Bristol, Birmingham, Bradford, Brighton, Bristol, Hull, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle, Norwich, Nottingham, Oldham, Portsmouth, Preston, Salford, Sheffield, Stoke-upon-Trent, Sunderland, and Wolverhampton all put together, the metropolis having 2,803,031 inhabitants, and the great provincial centres 2,963,945. The population of the latter is, however, increasing more rapidly than that of the metropolis, the augmentation having been 440,798 in London, as compared with 591,038 in the provincial towns; so that Cobbett's "great wen" is not, as some assume, absorbing all the power of the State. With regard to forty-three secondary towns the population of which ranges between 20,000 and 50,000, an advance has been made from 1,414,093 in 1851, to 1,653,386 in 1861, showing an augmentation of 239,293; and 167 still smaller towns, including, as in the case of their larger brethren, the additions made to many of them for Parliamentary purposes, having a population of from 5000 to 20,000, had in 1851 954,038, and in 1861 997,359 inhabitants, showing an augmentation of 43,321. The metropolitan district, consequently, increased in population at the rate of 18 per cent, the great centres of manufacturing industry at the rate of 24 per cent, the second class towns at the rate of 17 per cent, and the little boroughs at the rate of 4 per cent. In 14 still smaller townships, having less than 5000 inhabitants each, the population remained all but stationary, being 32,108 in 1851, and 32,559 in 1861; so that the lower one gets in the scale the more stagnant one finds the tide of human life. The excess of the fair sex in England amounts to the alarmingly large total of 544,021; but this disproportion between the sexes is not universal, the rougher section of humanity being in a majority in Derbyshire, Durham, Essex, Herefordshire, Kent, Hampshire, Staffordshire, and Westmoreland. In Middlesex there are 165,389, and in Lancashire 56,100 more women than men, and the agricultural counties also reflect the continuous drain of emigration upon their adult male population.

THE ANNUAL DINNER OF THE SOCIETY OF ARTS came off in the Crystal Palace on Wednesday evening. The company, which numbered at least 300, included Lord Elgin, K.T., K.C.B.; Earl Granville, Mr. Cumming Bruce, M.P.; Mr. William Ewart, M.P.; Chief Justice Temple, Mr. Marsh, M.P., &c. Lord Elgin presided.

CIRCULATION OF FRENCH JOURNALS.—The Paris correspondent of the *Globe* says that the official *Moniteur* circulates 18,700 copies daily. "Le Siècle" (thorough liberal and progressive) prints 55,700 copies; the *Constitutionnel* (ponderous and Governmental), 22,000; the *Debat* (refined and select), 11,300; *Le Monde* (clerical), 8900; *L'Ami de la Religion* (milder and less offensive), 3,900; *L'Union* (Henry V.) 5000. Each evening: *La Presse* (non-herald) puts out 21,900; *La Patrie* (semi-official), 20,000; *L'Opinion Nationale*, (Prince Jerome), 21,300; *Le Progrès*, (M. Louis Blanc), 20,000; *Le Temps*, (Protection), 20,000.

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF 1862.

HER Majesty's Commissioners have given notice that no demands for space, either from local committees or individual exhibitors, in the United Kingdom, Isle of Man, or Channel Islands, will be received after Tuesday, the 1st of October, 1861, and that the allotment of space will then be made on the returns sent in up to that date. Where no local committees are formed, provincial applications for space will be referred to, and determined by, national or metropolitan trade committees.

Special regulations have just been issued for the guidance of officers of customs respecting the importation of goods for the exhibition of 1862. All packages containing goods intended for the exhibition are to be specially reported as such, and addressed to the Exhibition Commissioners, or to one of their officers, and consigned to a duly accredited agent, accompanied with a specification of their contents and value. Such packages as are landed in London must be forwarded unopened to the exhibition, in charge of an approved licensed carman, accompanied by a cart note from the landing officers giving a description of the packages; and in cases where there is reason to suppose they contain other goods than those for the exhibition they are also to be accompanied by a revenue officer. Packages landed at the outports are to be forwarded with a similar note by railway or other public conveyance, under seals of office, direct to the exhibition. On the arrival of a package at the exhibition, the officer of customs will open the same, and if the goods be found to agree with the specification they will, if free, be at once considered as out of charge of the customs; and, if dutiable, an account will be taken by the officers of the Crown. The building is to be considered, for all practical purposes, a "bonded warehouse."

THE WARSAW MASSACRE.

WE this week publish two very interesting sketches connected with the recent deplorable events that have occurred at Warsaw. These sketches were smuggled out of the country by a gentleman who had them sewn into the lining of his coat, where they escaped the notice of the Russian police. The gentleman in question has been resident for several years past in Warsaw, and was an eyewitness of the brutal ferocity of the attack by the Russian troops on the unarmed inhabitants of the city two days following the suppression of the Agricultural Society. It seems that on the Sunday the people assembled after evening service in front of the building where the society had to hold its conferences, and strewed branches of evergreen around, when a Jewish lady, the wife of a rich Polish banker, unfurled a flag from the balcony of a house on which was displayed the Polish eagle. At this sight the crowd in a fit of enthusiasm sang the national hymn, and then moved on quietly to the residence of Count Andrew Zamoyksi. On the Count making his appearance according to their request they thanked him for all that he had done to promote national industry, for the able manner in which he had conducted the Agricultural Society, and for the example of generosity he had given the aristocracy in the settlement of the peasantry question on his own land. The Count's reply was received by shouts of "Long live Poland!" "Long live our Count!"

From the Zamoyksi Hotel the multitude took their way to the castle, the residence of Prince Gortschakoff. On their approach the troops were drawn out before the gates and the Prince appeared surrounded by his staff. He asked them what they wanted? "We want our country," said they, "with a free Parliament, a free press, and a complete system of national education." "Withdraw the troops, Prince," said a gentlemanly-looking man. "They are strangers and enemies to the Polish cause. They fired on us six weeks ago for manifesting our faith in our country's vitality and in the excellency of liberal constitutional government, such as all Christian nations enjoy, and in the possession of which they are all peaceable, prosperous, and happy." "Disperse, I say!" replied the Prince. Whereupon the people proceeded to sing the National Anthem on their knees, after which they quietly dispersed, when the Prince ordered the troops to their barracks.

This took place at about 6 p.m. On re-entering the castle the Prince summoned a council of war, at which all the officers agreed that the army had been insulted. "A pint of Polish blood would quell the fever," the Prince's nephew is reported to have said. "Yes," replied Aide-de-Camp Meyendorff, "and put an end for ever to their hopes of a Constitution!" The unanimous voice of the Council was for harsh measures; the instructions of the Czar were referred to; and the Prince reluctantly, it is said, consented to have the people fired at should they assemble on the following day and not disperse when ordered to do so. The next day was a holiday. After church service was over an immense crowd assembled to follow to the grave the remains of a gentleman who had been a political exile in Siberia for thirty years, and who had died some days previously. On returning from the burial-place the mourners met again in Sigismund-square, which was crammed with persons coming from the Cracow suburb, Senate-street, Bridge-street, and Honey-street. The troops were drawn up, so as to command the entire square, and the different issues leading to it. The Prince Governor was not present, but his staff was at the gate, and Aide-de-Camp Meyendorff had the command of the soldiery. He ordered the crowd to disperse; they replied they intended no harm: they were in the heart of their own capital, under the monument of one of their glorious Kings. "Retire!" said he again, "or I will order the troops to fire." They replied, "Fire!" and some of them uncovered their breasts and pointed to their hearts. "I repeat the order a third time," said he; "if you don't disperse, the troops shall fire." They fell on their knees, singing the national hymn, and Aide-de-Camp Meyendorff, who has since been promoted General, gave the command to fire, and the Muscovite troops, who had since been praised for it by the Czar, did fire eight volleys in three different directions, and the cavalry charged in another. The carnage was horrible; the square was soon covered with victims, and the infantry charged with their bayonets those who were bearing off the dead; they stabbed women who were covering the dead bodies of their husbands, from whom they would not be separated; and they stabbed in the back mothers who were running off with their children; and they arrested and plundered all those who wore Brandenburg coats. All this our informant states that he himself saw; and he saw, moreover, soldiers dragging the dead and the dying over the ground, and besmearing the stones of the streets with their blood.

There were an enormous number of persons wounded on that dreadful evening, and the number of the dead, killed on the spot or who have since died of their wounds, is considerably more than a hundred. In the parish of St. John alone eighty-one deaths were registered from the 8th to the 18th of April.

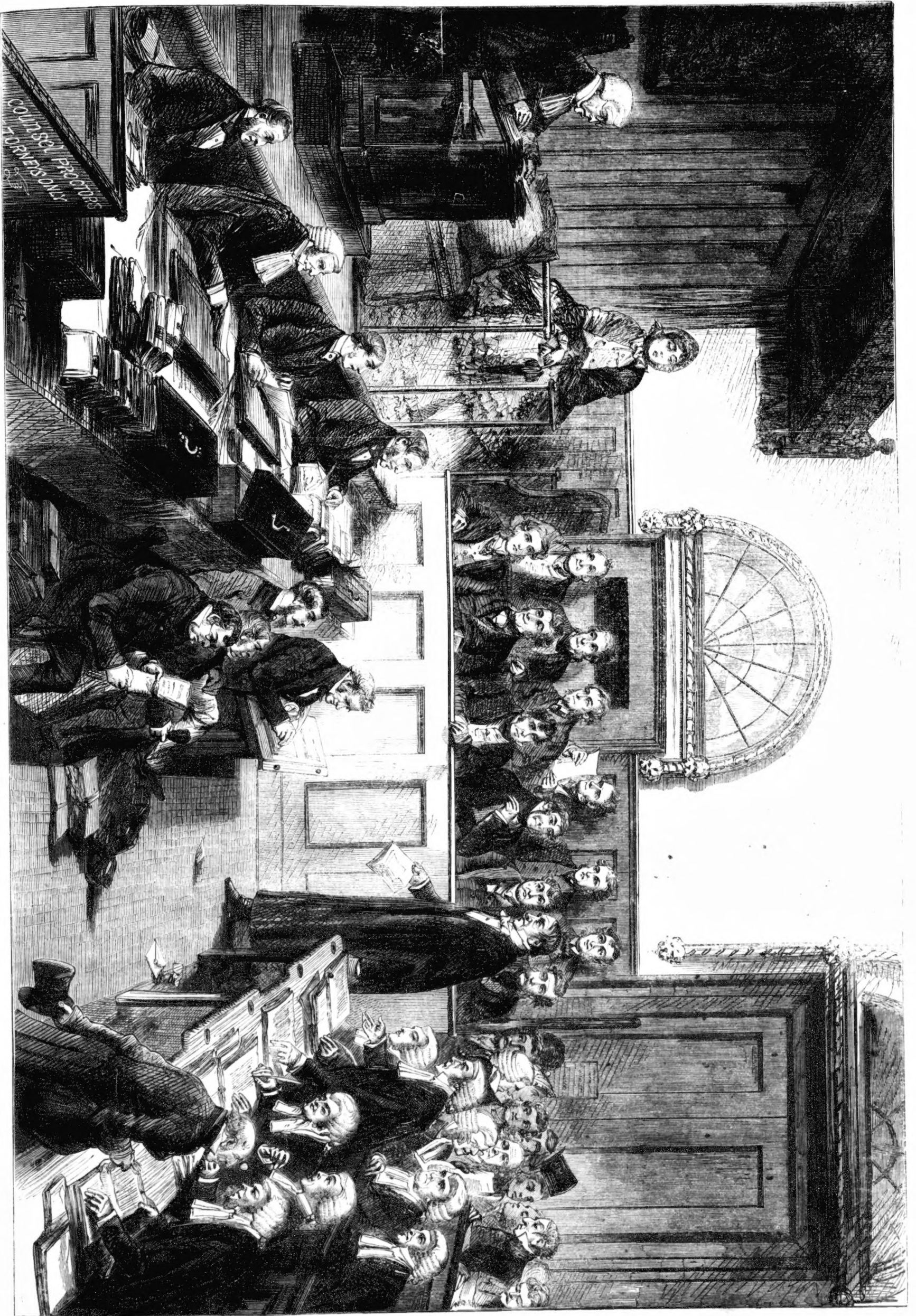
Our first sketch represents the scene presented in Sigismund-square on the evening of the 8th of April. The mounted officer is General Meyendorff; the building on the extreme left is a portion of the Castle; the church adjoining is that of the Bernardines; the houses in the distance belong to the Cracow suburb; and the column on the right is the monument of St. Sigismund. The second sketch represents the kind of funeral service which the Czar's Government grant to those who die of the wounds there received. The victims of the 27th of February had the honour of a public funeral, in which all party spirit and the symbols of various religions were blended. But this was afterwards considered bad policy. The War Council decided that the wounds of future victims should not be dressed by their friends, nor their dead bodies watered with their tears. They were to be carried in a dung cart, at the death of night, to their long homes; no minister of religion was to assist; four or at most five of their most immediate relatives could alone accompany them; an escort of Muscovite soldiers were to be present to maintain order and to see the victims consigned to a dishonoured grave.



ATTACK BY THE RUSSIAN TROOPS ON THE INHABITANTS OF WARSAW IN SIGISMUND-SQUARE.



ST. ROCH'S HOSPITAL, WARSAW.—MIDNIGHT FUNERAL OF ONE OF THE VICTIMS OF THE 8TH OF APRIL.



THE COURT FOR DIVORCE AND MATRIMONIAL CAUSES.

THE DIVORCE COURT.

If there is a place in all London, or a place in all England, which ought to be thoroughly English in its characteristics, we suppose it is the great hall which stands on a spot near to which a Royal palace has been placed ever since the days of Edward the Confessor. And, certainly, Westminster Hall is thoroughly English in all respects but one, particularly in the circumstance that its external appearance gives no promise of its interior largeness, and in the incongruity of the uses, both stated and accidental, to which it is applied. The un-English feature about the place is the remarkable waste of room, which, as the Genius of Flimsy (from whom we have just borrowed the word feature) would say, it evinces. It really does "evince" a waste of room which is very uncommon in this crowding, crushing, jostling land. But, after all, that is sometimes, however rarely, the English whim; and this grand old room is the most English place you can think of in the illustrations which it presents of that unaffected juxtaposition of the great and the small which may be observed in the lives of sincere individuals and sincere nations. Close by, the laws which rule the realm are forged and hammered into shape—shapeless shape, it is true; but laws are laws. Along the side run the courts in which these shapelessly shapely laws are administered by Justice herself in all the dignity of wig and ermine. If there is any place in town where you may be sure, if you stand for an hour during the season, you will have been brushed by a live lord, it is this place. But what of all that? Look on the left-hand side, and you will see a most undignified squatter, though a cleanly one. Without solution of continuity sits there, all through the Session when things are brisk, a stout, rosy Irishwoman, mistress of a stall at which apples, oranges, soda-water, ginger-beer, lemonade, biscuits, and all sorts of fruits in their seasons, are dispensed to the comers and goers. There is another such squatter right inside the lobby of the Court of Queen's Bench, but she minds umbrellas, and parasols, and walking-sticks, as well as sells fruit. And all round the place what do you see? Hither comes for shelter in great force that little dirty dot of a nursemaid who is such a familiar spectacle in the streets. All over the immense building, here and there, are the most esoteric rites of babyhood performed under the shelter of the fine, lofty, carved Gothic roof, in the most unsophisticated manner imaginable. We have ourselves seen sandy-haired Argyll—a real live Duke—brushed by a loud and lively, and quite-recently indecorous, infant, borne in the arms of a staggering little creature of burden who had just been threatening to make it "tingle in soft and safe places," as Dolly said Silas Marner should do to Eppie. His Grace did not appear to heed, but swept on, with his gloves loose in his hand, and his hat all awry. Why should he mind? Little men and women play at ball here, and toddle up and down those steps all day long; and perhaps it is too bad to say that there is any waste of room in that. One might rather say that the place suggests an idea for great cities—covered playgrounds for the young. But, at all events, let the babies stay, for there is no nook or corner in the country where the domesticities are more canvassed than the little room on the right-hand side, on the lintel of whose doorway you read "Court of Probate."

A Court of Probate it is, but it is English "bashfulness" which causes the description to be so curt; or perhaps an idea that if the place is not fully labelled some people may not be able to find it out. Here, however, is now transacted all that business (relating to last wills and testaments, and so forth) which, as Mr. Spenlow laboured to impress on the mind of young Copperfield, is so accurate a gauge of the prosperity of the country. When the bushel of wheat is at its highest, said Mr. Spenlow, you will always find there is most doing in the Ecclesiastical Courts—and the bushel of wheat used always to floor poor David. Hither, from Doctors' Commons, have come the Waddiloves, Twisses, Spinkses, Phillimore, and the rest; and here may be seen, doing a much less quiet stroke of business than they used to do, all the old familiar faces which waxed so fat when the bushel of wheat was at its highest in the ancient days. Their names may be now found on doorposts in Palace-yard, though once they were glorious in Godliman-street and "all round St. Paul's," in which latter neighbourhood now reign supreme the Cooks, the Pawsons, and the other great warehousemen who build palaces for muslins and ribbons, in which it is much easier to lose yourself than in the maze at Rosherville.

But, whatever statistical connection may exist between the prosperity of the Spinkses and Waddilove breed and the bushel of wheat (a point overlooked by the pervading Buckle), people do not crowd to hear will causes, unless, indeed, it be Miss Shelden who is arguing. In that case there will not be standing room, and it will take a reporter a quarter of an hour good to make his way from the door across this little court to the desk on the other side. But when the court is sitting on divorce cases it is always crowded—crowded to the very door—with people waiting in the lobby, and waiting on the steps, and waiting all round the outside. Great numbers of these hangers-on are women. A good many of them, if you were to ask them what they did there, would say they were witnesses. We have been asked by women to get them into the court on the very ground that they were witnesses up from the country; and in one case our interlocutor, a ruddy-faced woman of twenty-five, with a sharp, metallic, northern accent, added that if she could not get in on that day she would like to be taken to see the Crystal Palace, and was entire mistress of her time. But enter the court itself, and though you will not see as many women as men, you will see more than can be witnesses, and plenty of undisguised droppers-in and listeners. It is not what is said, but the circumstances under which it is said, that make the difference, apparently. What is uttered in a court of justice, like what is uttered in a church, is a "privileged communication"—privileged both with regard to the speaker and with regard to the listener. You know what sort of evidence is given in this court; you see it in your penny newspaper, and probably you have heard it when you have been lounging about Westminster. Well, look cautiously and stealthily, of course! at the countenance of your neighbour in the bonnet while that medical man with the tea-rose in his button-hole is giving his evidence. There has been quite a hue-and-cry to find him, poor man. His name has been shouted up and down in the purlieus of the court for ten minutes by ushers and policemen. When he was not forthcoming, Sir Cresswell Cresswell, with his blandest look and softest tones (it is a "way" of this learned Judge to say the most uncompromising things in the most silvery accents and with the most wheedling expression of face), admonished the counsel that these cases were "really got up in a very slovenly manner," and that it was wrong to "waste the time of the Court in this way." Everybody knew what sort of evidence was coming; there was plenty of time for ladies to withdraw; but not a crumpled skirt. We were wedged in all the time sandwich-fashion between a grey mantle and a black visite. At last the *medico* is found, and a nice story he is forced to tell; in fact, he stammers over it most outrageously. Of course Sir Cresswell Cresswell is indelicacy-proof, and cannot be expected to bury that sharp-cut visage of his in the bouquet with which he is toying. But, with the daylight pouring down from the roof upon every forehead in the room, you might expect these girls to wince a little. But do they? No more than your boots; their looks are as inscrutable as eternity, and not a facial muscle stirs. One cannot say the same of female witnesses in general in these cases. There, indeed, under the point-blank questions which are put to them the little creatures often wince. Sometimes their replies are quite inaudible, sometimes they cry, sometimes they baffle all attempts to get direct information, and persist in giving "evasive answers;" often, very often, they talk incoherently, and give replies which, taken in their grammatical relation to the questions put, have no meaning at all. We once heard a female witness from a seaport town, who, in answer to questions put in all sorts of forms by

Cresswell, Wightman, and another of the Judges (we forget which), kept on saying, in a whisper, tears on cheek, and handkerchief in hand, "I can honestly say, my Lord Judge, that I did see it." This was a case in which the witness was suspected of connivance. Sometimes, it is fair to add, female delicacy and female wit together are prettily shown in the manner in which awkward corners are turned in the giving of the evidence. But it is nothing new that female witnesses are bad witnesses; and we see no reason for anguring anything complimentary of the manner in which the lady before the reader is telling her, doubtless, difficult little tale. However, if there is any case in which a woman may be excused for beating about the bush it is a case in the Divorce Court.

THE ANGELS' WHISPER,

from the celebrated Picture by Frederick Goodall, A.R.A.

With the ILLUSTRATED TIMES of Saturday next, June 29, will be issued

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 1861.

CHURCH RATES.

EVERY Session for the last twenty years a bill for the abolition of church rates has been introduced into the House of Commons. Six times within as many years the bill has actually passed that House; and now there is less prospect of its becoming law than ever. The Peers reject it as often as it is sent up to them, and are likely to do so for many a day to come; although it seems to be the opinion of the Nonconformist bodies that in such case "a constitutional issue" will be raised between the two Houses "which can only end in one result." However, we are saved from the perils of a legislative collision this Session, for the bill has been thrown out. Sir John Trelawny's majority, which in 1859 numbered seventy-four, has dwindled down to zero. Last year the majority on the second reading was twenty-nine; on the third, nine. In the present Session the second reading was carried by fifteen; and on Wednesday a House of 548 members divided equally on the third reading, the Speaker's casting vote being given against the bill.

The probable result of this division will be simply to increase the discord between the Abolitionists and their opponents. As for the settlement of the dispute, which all parties profess to have most at heart, we see no prospect of it in any quarter. The opposition of the House of Peers to a measure which in 1860 passed the Lower House by nine votes and which in 1861 is shelved by a "dead heat" in that assembly, can no longer be called "blind," or "obstinate;" while as for compromise—which a considerable number of M.P.s appear to condemn, totally forgetting that under the name of "toleration" it lies at the root of the question—there may be a chance of settling the quarrel on that ground in the Lords, but none that we can see at present in the Commons. One important section on either side the House declares that it will accept no compromise whatever; and, in the face of this union in opposition, no one of the half-dozen compromises proposed is likely to be carried against the partisanship of all the rest. There is Sir George Lewis's plan. He would have a list made of persons who attend the parish church, and give a compulsory power to levy a rate on them; to which a dozen objections immediately present themselves. Then there is Mr. Sotheron Estcourt's proposition, which aims at the retention of the "machinery" of church rates, and insists on the constitutional right of parishes to rate themselves, but admitting the claim of any individual Dissenter to exemption. Judging from the temper displayed in the House on Wednesday, there is no chance of this scheme finding acceptance, on account of a strange delicacy amongst Nonconformists about being "ticketed," or, in other words, about being confessed and known as Nonconformists. Mr. Cross would do away with the ticket. He proposes that any man may exempt himself from the rate by a simple declaration that he objects to pay it—a concession which seems wide enough, in all conscience; but it will not do, it seems. The Bishop of Exeter's recommendation is conciliatory, too, since it limits the liability of ratepayers to a tax sufficient to maintain the mere fabric of the parish church. To us this has always seemed reasonable and acceptable enough; but not only do the Dissenters dispute the justice of the plan, but it finds little favour among Churchmen.

What, then, are we aiming at? Settlement by total abolition appears hopeless, and the Radicals have to thank themselves for closing the prospect in that direction, by avowing, as they did on the debate on the second reading in February, that their object is political and their real aim the severance of Church and State. They have also to dispose, not only of "old-fashioned prejudices," for which we might find as just and a softer name, but of Mr. Gladstone's distinction, for instance, between populous towns and rural parishes, which our readers may remember to have been, that in rural districts, where there is often no dissent, the burden and the benefit go

together. The rate is, as it was meant to be, paid by the landholder, and controlled by the occupier in the vestry. In towns, on the other hand, where Dissent prevails, the obligation of the landholder is lost or hardly understood, free seats disappear, and the churches are insufficient for the population. Surely, the difference in these cases alone affords sufficient reason for making a compromise; and, on all accounts, we do earnestly hope that the question will be settled by conciliation at last, distant as the prospect now appears.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN will give a concert on Friday, the 28th inst., at Buckingham Palace. Her Majesty held a Drawingroom (the first of the season) on Wednesday.

THE QUEEN, says the *Court Journal*, has ordered that for the future no provisions of any kind shall be brought into the Palace on Sunday.

THE PRINCE OF WALES visited the French Gallery on Saturday to view George Brown's picture of New York, presented to his Royal Highness by the citizens of that place. The Prince also inspected the French pictures on view in the same gallery.

PRINCE LOUIS OF HESSE had his allowance raised from £1500 a year to £3300, in view of his marriage with Princess Alice.

THE EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH was present at the opening of the Horticultural Gardens, according to the *Court Journal*.

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF THE BELGIANS AND THE COUNT OF FLANDERS will close their visit to the Queen on the 1st of next month, when His Majesty departs for Ostend on his return to Brussels.

THE EARL AND COUNTESS OF DERBY gave a grand entertainment to their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cambridge and Princess Mary on Wednesday.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE GENERAL COMMANDING IN CHIEF directs that on and after the 20th inst. the bounty for all recruits for the Army be reduced from £2 to £1, which is to be paid to them on joining their corps, in cash (without deduction).

THE INTENDED MEETING OF MR. CORDEN with his constituents has been postponed from the 19th inst. (Wednesday) to the 26th.

IT IS REMARKED, in connection with the Polish question, that fifty estates have been offered for sale in Posen in the past six months. They all belong to Poles, and have nearly all been purchased by Germans, whose industry and thrift enable them to eat out the careless Poles. The land is passing rapidly from its old proprietors.

THE TIDE OF EMIGRATION FROM IRELAND may be said to have ceased to flow. Emigrant-vessels depart from some of the ports without a single emigrant.

DURING AN EXHIBITION OF FIREWORKS at York a few days since a rocket struck a boy on the forehead and fractured his skull. He was not expected to recover.

FRITH'S "DERBY DAY" is being engraved in Paris. English artists have too much to do who can do anything.

THE *Trieste Gazette* says that M. Kossuth has taken a villa on the Lake of Como, and that he has purchased at Trieste portable presses, with which he intends to continue the manufacture of notes.

SIX STEAM GUN-VESSELS are about to be dispatched to the North American coast.

MR. SPURGEON is on a visit to the Cumberland lakes. On Sunday week he walked into the Baptist chapel at Keswick, and sat down in a corner, but was sought out, and had to pray. He was compelled to preach on the same evening.

THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT have established a rule requiring an oath of allegiance to be taken before issuing passports to citizens. The same rule, it is understood, is required to be observed at legations and consulates.

BARCELONA is said to be suffering severely owing to the want of cotton, which vessels from British ports are prohibited from carrying there.

THE FRENCH WORKMEN repairing the chateau at Aragon for the Empress gave great offence to the Spaniards by planting the French flag on it, which signified annexation, their minds having become acutely sensitive from recent political matters. The Spaniards took to brute force; the French replied, and blows were given and taken freely.

THE REV. WILLIAM OWEN, Curate of Glenogwen Church, Bethesda, near Bangor, has been received into the Church of Rome by the Rev. "Canon" Egan, of Bangor. The rev. pervert is only twenty-seven years old, and is the son of a Welsh clergyman.

A TURIN CORRESPONDENT of the *Presse* states that on Baron Ricasoli accepting the dictatorship of Tuscany he said to some friends who were leaving for Paris, "Tell those gentlemen there that I am the last of a family twelve centuries old, and that I will give the last drop of my blood to maintain the integrity of my political programme."

GENERAL GARIBOLDI, it is stated, has written a letter to the Marchioness Anna Trivulzio Pallavicini, begging her to use her influence towards the foundation, in all the towns of Italy, of committees of ladies for promoting the moral and material improvement of the lower classes of society.

THE PREPARATIONS for the visit of the Prince of Wales to the Curragh are rapidly pushed on. The reviews of this year will be on a larger scale than were ever witnessed at the Curragh.

MR. GEORGE BISHOP, F.R.S., so well known on account of his astronomical science, expired yesterday week at his residence, South Villa, Regent's Park, having nearly completed his seventy-seventh year. Mr. Bishop successively filled the offices of secretary and treasurer of the Royal Astronomical Society, and was elected president of that body in 1857.

A PARAGRAPH has been going the round of the papers announcing the death of Mr. Charles Lever at Spezzia. His friends and admirers, however, will be glad to learn that there is no truth in the report.

DR. SCHONBERG, a German physician, is said to have received an invitation to Windsor Castle.

THE REPORT as to the Bishop of Salisbury having abandoned his intention of proceeding against the Rev. Dr. Williams is incorrect.

THE FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING of the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science is to be held in Dublin in August next, lasting from the 14th to the 21st.

RECRUITING FOR THE ARMY is for the present entirely suspended, except for the 1st Dragoon Guards, the Royal Artillery, and the Royal Engineers.

J.M. TENDER JACKALL, employed in preventing illegal fishing on the coast of Argyllshire, has had frequent collisions with the Highland trawlers, and, during a recent one, a trawler was shot and another wounded by one of the Jackall's crew.

THE MEASLES have been epidemic at Strasburg for the last three months to such an extent that the infant schools are almost deserted, and several have even been closed for want of pupils.

"THE RHINOCEROS SCALES OF LA GLOIRE," says a Paris letter, "have not hung so heavy about that frigate as to prevent her distancing by ten hours the quickest steamers on the station between Toulon and Algiers, she having just accomplished the passage in sixty-six hours."

THE 160TH ANNIVERSARY of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts was celebrated in St. Paul's Cathedral on Tuesday. The Bishop of Ripon preached the sermon. The operations of the society in India and the colonies are very extensive, and its income during the past year amounted to upwards of £90,000.

THE DIGNITY OF A K.C.B. has been conferred upon Lord Dufferin, the British member of the late European Commission in Syria.

ON TUESDAY MORNING the thick plate-glass in front of the thermometer and barometer of the handsome drinking-fountain erected at the expense of Mr. Gurney at the corner of St. Sepulchre's Church was discovered to have been completely destroyed.

THE WIFE OF SMITH O'BRIEN died at CAHERNOYLE on Thursday week.

THE WIFE OF THE DEAN OF WORCESTER, who has for some time past been suffering from heart disease, nearly terminated her existence on Sunday last through taking an over-dose of laudanum, which drug she had been in the habit of taking to relieve her complaint.

A WOMAN DIED last week of apoplexy induced by the excessive heat of the weather. The coroner's jury returned a verdict "Died by the visitation of God."

AT A GALA that took place at York on Thursday week the stick of a rocket pitched on the head of a boy, aged eleven years. Besides fracturing his skull, the child's dress was set on fire, and he died the following day.

A BANQUET is to take place, at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, on Friday, June 28, in connection with the City of London Conservative Registration Association. John G. Hubbard, Esq., M.P., will take the chair.

THE MADRID JOURNALS state that the custom officers of Gorracha, near Almeria, have seized a number of Protestant books which some English sailors had given to workmen.

THE CROPS in all parts of the country are reported to be very flourishing. The French and Belgian crops also promise well.

Two BROTHERS, aged twelve and fourteen respectively, went on Saturday last to bathe in a dangerous part of the River Don, known as the Devil's Flow. One of them sank, and on the other going to his assistance the drowning one seized him and they sank together.

A FIRE occurred a few days since at a public-house kept by Keene, the prize-fighter, in Moor-street, Soho. Several of the inmates had a narrow escape, and unfortunately the cook, named Anne Browne, whose clothes had ignited, jumped from a window, and thereby sustained injuries of which she shortly died.

NO LESS A SUM THAN £1,121,153 HAS BEEN EXPENDED AT ALDERSHOTT in the purchase of land, erection of barracks and huts, supply of water, and other works. Further works have been approved by the Government which will cost £201,563, and a vote for £54,563 towards that sum will be proposed this Session.

THE MANCHESTER WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE is INCORPORATED WITH OXEN'S COLLEGE. For half a guinea a session, a Working Men's College student now has the advantage of attending a course of twenty lectures, of reading any one of the twenty-seven classes established in Oxen's College, together with the use of the college books.

THE ADMIRALTY HAVE DECIDED UPON A GENERAL MUSTER AND REVIEW of the gunboat tenders to the coastguard ships. The flotilla, in number fifty-six, will, it is expected, rendezvous at Portland. Three or four of the coastguard ships will, it is expected, accompany the flotilla.

BLANQUET was tried on Friday at Paris on a charge of belonging to a secret society. The Court found him guilty, and condemned him to four years' imprisonment, and interdiction of civil rights for five years afterwards. Three of his accomplices, one of whom was a woman, were sentenced to from one year to six months' imprisonment.

A BOY NAMED COOPER, while in charge of a danger-signal on the shore at Wallasey, near Liverpool, was accidentally killed by a volunteer last week. The boy was supposed to be out of the line of fire; but experiment shows that the wind when in a particular quarter brings it within range.

MR. LAING, the Indian financier, had been suffering from dysentery, we hear by the late mail. He was about to start for Rangoon, for change of air.

THE TOTAL SUM INSURED in the year 1860 on farming stock (which is exempt from duty) in England and Wales was £45,963,073; in Scotland, £5,300,772; and in Ireland, £1,049,053—making a total of £52,312,898.

THE CALEDONIAN FANCY-DRESS BALL in aid of the Scotch charities of the metropolis took place on Monday night at Willis's Rooms. The company, numbering nearly 800 guests, included the principal members of the Scottish and many of the English aristocracy.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

OUR contemporary the *Athenaeum* stands much in the position of Ishmael—its hand is against every man, and every man's hand is against it. Twelve years ago Mr. Albert Smith dedicated his brochure "The Flirt" to the "Editor of the *Athenaeum*," and expressed his opinion of the impotency of that functionary to make or mar the fortune of any book. A month since and Mr. Alfred Austin repaid a sneering notice of his poem "The Season" with some hundred lines of satire which, for pointed sarcasm and terse vigour, have probably not been surpassed since Byron's day. We propose noticing Mr. Austin in detail next week; but meantime our attention is directed to a fresh onslaught, this time addressed to Mr. Hepworth Dixon, the editor of the *Athenaeum*, by one Mr. H. Cholmondeley Pennell, author of a little book called "Puck on Pegasus." The character of this work can be recognised at a glance. It bears the name of a publisher who issues books "on commission." It is an edition de luxe in all the glories of brilliant binding, creamy paper, capital type, and exquisite illustration. The only bad things in it are the author's poems, which are childish and silly—feeble, pointless parodies, and full of that very small fun consisting in giving to a sentimental poem a comic turn by making the last line broadly humorous, which was all very well when it first appeared nearly twenty years ago in "Bon Gaultier," but which has since been done to death. The *Athenaeum* criticised the book shortly and pithily, by no means in an offensive or personal spirit, but the notice so "riled" the sensitive Mr. Pennell that he wrote the following letter:—

Sir,—I am aware that you wrote the critique on my book, in last Saturday's *Athenaeum*, which I consider personally offensive.

As two-thirds of the London press have already recorded opinions in the highest degree flattering, I could well have afforded to treat with contempt the ill-conditioned snarlings of a single "literary gorilla;" but when a reviewer indulges in flippant impertinences upon the character and "feelings" of an author, instead of confining himself to the merits of the work before him, he sometimes lays himself open to unpleasant consequences.

I, therefore, give you fair warning that, unless you take the opportunity now afforded by the issue of a second edition to make the *amende*, I shall to myself the pleasure of hawking you the first time that I meet you in public, and then hand you over to the tender mercies of Mr. Alfred Austin, whose attentions are likely to be equally unpleasant.

I shall consider this note private until the 22nd; and remain, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

THE AUTHOR OF "PUCK ON PEGASUS."

Conservative Club, June 18, 1861.

Mr. Dixon's reply was prompt, and to the point. A very hot-headed man, when threatened with a horsewhip, might have taken the initiative, and "clobbered" the gentleman who threatened him. But Mr. Dixon very wisely availed himself of a better course, and returned this:—

Sir,—I have received your disgraceful letter, to which I shall, of course, immediately give the publicity it deserves.

In the meantime I have communicated with the police authorities, who will take effectual measures to prevent your committing the outrage threatened.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

W. HEPPWORTH DIXON.

To H. Cholmondeley Pennell, Esq., Conservative Club.

Every literary critic will feel that Mr. Dixon has pursued the right course in having nothing further to do with Mr. Cholmondeley Pennell, nor, as Foote said in connection with the same name, any of his peo-ple. Some of us are big and burly, and can take care of ourselves; but henceforth a gentleman, before engaging on a critical journal, will have to make a stipulation that a very stalwart Irish porter shall be kept on the premises to do battle with irate wittlings.

Sir G. C. Lewis has won golden opinions from all kinds of people by his interdicting M. Blondin from wheeling his child in a barrow across the rope at the Crystal Palace. The mountebank's agility would probably enable him, in the event of an accident, to save his own neck, but the child's life must inevitably be sacrificed.

The latest and one of the very best exponents of Shakespeare's genius recently paid fitting reverence at the poet's shrine. M. Fechter, accompanied by a few friends, has visited Stratford-on-Avon and spent two days in examining the principal objects of interest in the town and neighbourhood. The party had the advantage of an excellent cicerone in the person of Mr. W. O. Hunt, the well-known antiquary, the possessor of the newly discovered Shakespeare portrait, and of perhaps the finest collection extant of Shakespearean objects of interest. These were all minutely examined by M. Fechter, who, probably few are aware, is an excellent sculptor, and who purposes modelling a statue of Shakespeare for the approaching International Exhibition.

The amateur performance by the members of the Savage Club, for the benefit of the family of the late Mr. E. Landells, came off on Wednesday evening at the Lyceum. The pieces were "The Wreck Ashore" and a new burlesque of "Valentine and Orson." In the melodrama Mr. Palgrave Simpson played Grampus as well as any one could hope to see it played after its impersonation by the late Mr. O. Smith. Mr. Byron was the Miles Bertram, and was more effective than at least half of the *jeunes premiers* at present on the stage. The attempt at Marnadine Magog by Mr. Talfourd was ambitious. The burlesque was rather too long, each of the five separate authors appearing to have feared to do himself injustice by reducing his own particular scene to the dimensions to which a single author of a piece would probably have curtailed it. A neat, pointed prologue, written by Mr. Planché and spoken by Mr. Byron in the character of the gorilla, as recently portrayed by Mr. Leech in *Punch*, was the most successful bit in the programme.

"ESSAYS AND REVIEWS."

BOTH Houses of Convocation met on Tuesday, when the principal business was the bringing up of the report on "Essays and Reviews." The report stated that the committee had carefully fulfilled their allotted task, and considered the following to be the leading principles of the book:—

That the present average knowledge possessed by the world in its "man-hood" is the standard whereby the educated intellect of the individual man, guided and governed by conscience, is to measure and determine the truth of the Bible. That where the Bible is assumed to be at variance with the conclusions of such educated intellect, the Bible must be taken in such cases to have no Divine authority, but to be only "a human utterance." That the principles of interpretation of the Bible hitherto universally received in the Christian Church are untenable, and that new principles of interpretation must now be substituted if the credit and authority of the Holy Scriptures are to be maintained.

The committee find that

in many parts of the volume statements and doctrines of the Holy Scriptures are denied, called in question, or disparaged; for example:—"The Reality of Miracles, including the idea of Christ as presented to us in the Bible," "Predictive Prophecy; especially predictions concerning the incarnation, person, and offices of our Lord," "The Descent of all mankind from Adam," "The Fall of Man and Original Sin," "The Divine Command to sacrifice Isaac," "The Incarnation of our Lord," "Salvation through the Blood of Christ," "The Personality of the Holy Spirit," "Special or Supernatural Inspiration," "Historical Facts of the Old Testament, including some referred to by our Blessed Lord himself." It is urged that many passages of the Holy Scriptures may be understood and explained upon the principle called "ideology," by which is meant that the reader is at liberty to accept the idea of characters and facts described in the Holy Scriptures, instead of believing in the reality of those characters and facts. It is maintained that the creeds of the Church, whether regarded as confessions of faith or as "instruments for the interpretation of Scripture," may now be put aside as no longer suitable to the present advanced intellectual condition of the world. Liberty is claimed for the clergy and candidates for holy orders to subscribe articles of religion, and to use formularies in public worship without believing them, according to their plain and natural meaning. Attempts are made to separate Christian holiness of life from Christian doctrine. We notice in many parts of the volume the absence of the spirit of humility and reverence with which human reason ought ever to approach the study of Divine truth; we notice also a confusion of the dictates of the natural conscience with Divine grace, and in some places a substitution of those dictates for Divine grace. It appears to us that whilst the professed intention of the volume is the "free handling in a becoming spirit," of religious subjects, the general tendency and effect of the volume is unduly to exalt the authority of human reason, to lower the authority of revelation in regard to things divine and spiritual, to unsettle faith, and to consign the reader to a hopeless scepticism.

It was then resolved that the report, as printed, be distributed to all the members of the Lower House.

Archdeacon Denison then gave notice of his intention to ask the assent of the house to the following resolution:—"That, in the opinion of this house, there are sufficient grounds for proceeding to synodical judgment upon the book entitled 'Essays and Reviews,' and that the above resolution be communicated to the Upper House, together with a copy of the report of the committee."

On Wednesday both Houses of Convocation met. A deputation from the Lower House brought up the report of the committee on the "Essays and Reviews," and received permission from their Lordships to act upon it.

FEMALE ARTISTS' FANCY BAZAAR.—The bazaar, held at South Kensington, in aid of the Female School of Art, has proved very successful. Princess Alice, Princess Helena, and Princess Louise visited the bazaar on Saturday morning and made extensive purchases at every stall. The bazaar closed on Tuesday.

BANQUET AT THE MANSION HOUSE.—The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress entertained His Grace the Archbishop of York, the Bishops, the principal clergymen of the metropolis, several members of the House of Commons, the chief members of the Corporation, and many other persons of rank and station at dinner at the Mansion House on Tuesday. The Archbishop of Canterbury was unable to be present, but many of the chief dignitaries of the Church attended.

TENDER REVERTS.—On the departure of the French troops from Syria General de Beaufort addressed them in an *ordre du jour* containing the following somewhat remarkable passage:—"I need not tell you how much I regret not having had the happy chance of leading you to battle. I know that I might have expected everything of you. May we soon find ourselves on better ground, on entirely military ground, where no fitter will restrain our free action!"

INDIAN FAMINE RELIEF FUND.—The Indian Famine-relief Committee met on Monday at the Mansion House, under the presidency of the Lord Mayor. There was some discussion as to whether or not they should discontinue to receive subscriptions; but it was ultimately resolved that no active measures should be taken on any of the other until they had received some further information from India; and it was also resolved that as they had £2000 in hand it should be sent out by the mail which was to leave next day, which made a total remittance of £102,000.

IMPERIAL SPORT.—According to the *Courier Journal* the Imperial party at Fontainebleau amused themselves by spearing frogs, and betting who could fill a bucket first. At each end of the fosse servants are stationed to beat the rushes, and force the frogs to pass backwards and forwards beneath the wall, on which the performers sit. The ladies and gentlemen, lovers of the sport, will sit sometimes until midnight. The *Express* is said to be quite an adept at the sport.

BLONDIN.—Blondin's performance on Saturday comprised, in addition to his former feats, his wheeling a barrow across the rope, and in it his daughter Adèle Blondin, who distributed to an audience of 12,500 below bouquets of flowers bound with white ribbon, on which was inscribed in gold letters "Souvenir. Adèle Blondin." Blondin made his first provincial ascent at the Botanical Gardens, Sheffield, on Monday. It had always been anticipated that M. Blondin's provincial engagements would attract immense numbers of persons, but it was far beyond expectation that at this, his first (as yet) in the country, upwards of 90,000 persons should have been present. Excursion-trains ran from all the great towns of the district from an early hour. In the afternoon business was completely suspended.

THE YELVERTON CASE.—The conjoint actions in this case (one of which is an action of declarator of marriage) have made a step in advance in the Scotch Court of Session. The Lord Ordinary declined to acquiesce in Mrs. Yelverton's demand to be examined in evidence, in proof of certain documents which she says have been lost. Major Yelverton had denied that he destroyed the documents referred to; and the attempt to prove that he had by the evidence of Mrs. Yelverton, the pursuer, is "contrary to the rule of evidence and the practice of the court."

THE ST. BARNABAS DIFFICULTY.—In the long-protracted dispute as to the structure of the communion-table and decorations employed during the ministrations of the sacrament in St. Barnabas chapel of ease, Pimlico, before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, the motion of James Bait and others was heard, to enforce the monition of the Court, calling upon the H. M. and Rev. Robert Liddell and churchwardens to make certain alterations according to a decree of their Lordships in 1857. It was contended that the order had not been complied with; but on behalf of the incumbent the contrary was maintained. Their Lordships decided that there had been no evasion of the judgment, and that what had been done was in strict conformity with the decree. The motion was therefore dismissed, but without costs.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ENGLAND AND PRUSSIA.—Reports are rife of a diplomatic rupture between Prussia and England on account of the Macdonald affair; but the facts appear to be simply these:—The Government of Prussia is irritated by what it considers an impertinent interference with domestic concerns, and has directed its Ambassador in London to decline any further correspondence on the subject. The quarrel has already been pushed beyond the limits warranted by the importance of the dispute. Prussian officials are insolent to travellers, but not more so than to their own people, and so all it really is to whip them into courtesy.

RIFLE ACCIDENT TO A VOLUNTEER.—A bad accident occurred on Tuesday evening off Dow road, by which a young gentleman lost his life. A party of the Herts Volunteer Artillery Corps had met for ball-practice, preliminary to a match about to come off, when a silver cup is to be shot for. Mr. Cox, a member of the corps, had stepped out of the ranks to fire in his turn, and while in the act of raising his carbine the weapon exploded, and the ball passing through his heart, he fell dead on the spot.

DEATH OF THE GREEN-GREEN BLACKSMITH.—The death of Joan Murray, of Sukk Bar Hotel, Green-green, at the age of sixty-three years, is announced. Mr. Murray (as a local journal) was the successor of the original blacksmith who riveted so many matrimonial chains in the old days of runaway matches. Upon the death of that son of Vulcan his mantle fell upon Mr. John Murray, and he in his turn for many years drove a brisk trade in making happy or miserable, as the case might be, nearly hundreds of couples who sought his kind offices.

Literature.

London Labour and the London Poor, &c. By HENRY MAYHEW. Vols. II. and III. Griffin, Bohn, and Co.

IN accordance with the system of compensation in Nature, Chancery, which some years since occasioned a novel by Mr. Dickens, has for some years deprived the public of Mr. Mayhew's "London Labour and the London Poor." At length, however, the first division, comprising the London street-folk, is complete. This is divided into street sellers, buyers, finders, performers, artisans, and labourers; but the list of subdivisions would occupy a column by itself. The singular care displayed in classifying the vast amount of London life is in itself evidence of the industry and good faith of the author. The hardy gurdy-player and the harp-player are favoured with separate chapters. The tomtom-player has a natural history quite distinct from that of the Ethiopian serenader, and a difference of worldly interest is found between the street glee-singer and the street ballad-singer. The value of each separate account—and the fifteen hundred closely-printed pages in these three volumes must contain some six or seven hundred statements—partly consists in the fact that it is partly autobiographic, Mr. Mayhew having in each case gone to head-quarters for information, and taken great pains to prevent deception through either wilfulness or jealousy. Perhaps to some slight extent, as there is a drawback to everything and perfection is impossible, the work may suffer somewhat from this; for it is overburdened with repetition and with rough and vulgar dialogue, whilst frequently that most decorous of typographical signs, the "—," is used to denote words that are undiscoverable, or discoverable only to shock ears decently polite. As we fancy that from reputation the contents and style of Mr. Mayhew's book must be well known to most readers, we shall refrain from repeating particulars here; but one point must be mentioned, and the objection to be made probably lies at the publisher's door. Much of the information given must be at least ten years old, whilst the latter chapters appear to be comparatively recent. A preface and an occasional explanation would have been of great value. As it is, it frequently reads like an old book with a new titlepage—a "trick of trade" which is most embarrassing to the reader, and not worthy a firm of respectability.

Amusing and interesting as this book is, it has an object higher than to amuse or instruct. Its revelations are so appalling, important, so well guaranteed, and so clearly presented, that it may be looked upon as a bill before Parliament with which the Legislature is bound to deal. It is impossible, as people say, that "things can go on in this way." London is being eaten alive by the London poor, and the London poor are being daily reinforced in numbers by the London labourers. The London rich are increasing also; but that is no answer to the difficulty. Fresh fortunes derived from cotton and machinery may fill poor-boxes and endow hospitals; but those processes can never elevate poverty into independence, nor keep cold and disease from the wretched lodging-houses of the "slums." In the last ten years the population of London has increased by about half a million. It is, therefore, at least fair to add to Mr. Mayhew's statistics a large percentage; and, as poverty always increases far more than wealth, it would be reasonable to take all the extra professions invented by the poor during the last ten years as so much over the proportion of poverty to riches, in proportion as it existed then and exists now. The glutinous papers for flycatching ("Catch 'em alive oh!") is a comparatively new branch of manufacturing industry. One man alone makes 28,512 papers in a year, and it may be supposed that many boys are engaged in their distribution. The crossing-sweep boys who tumble—"Poor Jack, yer honour!" are a new class. The ticket-of-leave men have to exist. The "serenaders" were lately unknown; and how many poor girls must have been deprived of their scanty and precarious employment by the introduction of the sewing-machine? On the other hand, the "Cret photographic likeness for threepence" must occupy a large number of hands; and some few boys roam the streets selling penny newspapers. But, clearly, "things" are becoming worse and worse; and it becomes the duty of the Legislature to take cognisance of the fact. The Army and Navy must be made more palatable services. Emigration must be advertised, and not merely suffered to work its own way. Public opinion is already doing good in "work for women," but, unless work for men can be found, the utmost immorality, as well as poverty and wretchedness, must assuredly prevail. The ability to furnish and conduct a home, however humble, must spring from the labouring man. That assured, the evil resulting from inability to marry will necessarily disappear, and will probably carry in its train many of the evils and miseries which society deplores enormously, and tries to prevent slightly.

Poems. By the Author of "The Patience of Hope." Hamilton, Adams, and Co.

"The Patience of Hope" was quite unknown to us until we were introduced to it by some extracts from reviews quoted on the fly-leaves at the end of the book before us. We have read the extracts, and think the prose of the authoress deserves the praise it has received. Her "Poems" we cannot help welcoming. They are diffuse, which is their worst fault; but they have real merits, as poems, over and above their sincerity, sweetness, and loftiness of tone. In fact, the tone is too uniformly high. A few familiar touches would have been a great improvement. Omitting the two last verses, which are surplusage, we quote with pleasure the following:—

POETS.

One spake to a poet, "And whence hast thou won
The key to the melodies vagrant that run
And thro' along Nature's strong pulse, like a strain
That haunts us by snatches, yet doth not attain,
Save in thee, to completeness?
The wind-song, the bird-song, the song of the leaves,
The heart-song which breathes through them all, and receives
E'en in giving them sweetness!"

Then he answered, "From God, who to each at His will
From His fulness gives somewhat the yearning to still
Of the soul, that as yet He designs not to fill;
For He would not that any should tax him and say,
'Thou gavest me nought as I went by the way
To joy in and bless Thee.'"

And His gifts are all blessed; He giveth to some
Rich boons; they are happy, and so they are dumb—
There was silence in Heaven;
And the strength and the loving, to pass on each thing
That they have not with joy in its beauty, and sing,
To some He hath given.

These sit in their gladness, all robed and all crowned,
As guests at life's banquet, while swift circles around
Life's rosy joy-bringer;
But a banquet needs music, so these in the cold
Stand singing without; though his harp be of gold,
Wilt thou envy the singer?

The Golden Quiver, or, Poems for Children. By S. G. STEVENSON. Darton.

This is a pretty little book, and the poems are free from the usual vices of such productions. Any body who knows children must know how hard they are to please. We should think most children would like the little stories and chants in "The Golden Quiver."

Pictures in a Mirror. By W. MOY THOMAS. Groombridge. This volume is simply a collection of magazine articles, but they are very good. Mr. Thomas writes clear, effective English, takes the level of his public well, and keeps a careful mean between worldliness and sentimentalism. We can heartily recommend "Pictures in a Mirror" as good railway or casual reading.

MDLLE. ADELINA PATTI, THE NEW SINGER AT THE ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

THE announcement of a new singer is always an event which produces a certain amount of interest and expectation amongst the habitués of the opera and the London concert; but somehow these expectations have of late years been so often doomed to a commonplace disappointment that people have become somewhat sceptical, and preliminary enthusiasm is difficult. This being the case, the undoubted success of Mdle. Adelina Patti may be considered in the light of a triumph, and the continuance of the admiration her first performance elicited must be regarded as an evidence that her claims to a high reputation were well founded; not, by-the-by, that any extraordinary reports preluded her appearance at Covent Garden. She was simply announced, and the musical criticism of the audience being challenged to pronounce judgment, her success was decided without undue external influence. The most marvellous characteristics of the débutante were first her youth, and then the extraordinary power, tone, and flexibility of her voice. An *Amina*, as the musical critic of the *Times* said, "not yet done growing" was indeed a novelty, and when the young girl of eighteen faced that terrible audience with perfect calmness, and sang her part with an effect and brilliancy seldom heard before, the charm was complete, and a great success at once achieved.

Mdle. Patti was born at Madrid on April 9, 1843, both her father and mother having occupied a considerable position as singers, both in the Italian and Spanish theatres, her mother having had several operas composed for her, and singing her great part of *Norma* at the theatre in Milan on the evening before Adelina's birth.

After having acquired a fortune by their profession, Signor and Signora Patti left the stage, but ultimately proceeded to the United States, where an opera-house had been built for them, and where the Signor once more retired, after having lost the fortune he took with him. Of his three daughters—*Amalia*, *Carlotta*, and *Adelina*—the youngest early manifested extraordinary musical talent, and made her first public appearance at New York in 1851, on the occasion of a concert for some charitable purpose. Mdme. Bosio, who sang at the same concert, was delighted and astonished at her ability and caressed her warmly. Soon after this she made a professional tour with her sister and M. Maurice Strakosch, her brother-in-law, where she sang some of the best pieces of Mdme. Sontag, Jenny Lind, and Bosio, amidst an enthusiasm that greatly helped to increase the value of her share of the enterprise, which amounted to 20,000 dollars. It is said that through all this success Adelina was still a child; and, in proof of it, a story is told of her having refused to sing unless permitted to take her doll with her on to the stage as she invariably carried it to theatre and concert-room, and on one occasion invited a little acquaintance who sat on the front benches, by saying, "Nelly, come to my room right away; I've got such a beautiful doll to show you, and we'll have such fun." After a visit to all the principal cities of the United States, Canada, and the West Indies, Adelina Patti studied at New York, and made her first appearance in the opera there in 1859 in the part of *Lucia di Lammermoor*. She was engaged to sing at Montreal on the occasion of the Prince of Wales attending a concert there during his tour, and afterwards appeared in the character of *Martha*, in the Opera House of Philadelphia, when he visited that city. The following are the operas in which Mdle. Patti has sung:—"Lucia," "Paritani," "Martha," "Barbiere," "Don Giovanni," "Linda di Chamounix," "Traviata," "Sonnambula," "Rigoletto," "Trovatore," "Dinorah," "Moses in Egypt," "Don Pasquale," "Huguenots," and "Figlia del Reggimento."

THE DESTRUCTION OF THE SURREY MUSIC HALL.

How terrible was the conflagration which destroyed the Surrey Music-hall last week may be judged from the accompanying illustration, from a sketch taken on the spot. It is difficult, however, to convey any just impression of the awful terror of the scene when the fire was at its height; but it would have appeared far more terrible had it broken out in the night instead of on the afternoon of a bright summer's day.

An inspection of the building has led to the conclusion that the walls may be made available for future purposes. All else is utter ruin. The stage and orchestra, where M. Jullien wielded his baton to a thousand performers, and the projecting balconies, the design of which Mr. Spurgeon has copied to some extent in his new chapel, are all a mass of rubbish. It is fortunate, however, that the fire was confined to the hall, as though in a furnace, and that a smaller building, connected by a short passage, has entirely escaped, thus enabling the lessees to carry on their entertainments, although not to the usual extent. Nearly £400 had just been expended on decoration, and every preparation had been made for what is termed the season, which, at the best of times, is of a most precarious character, but under present circumstances scarcely anything can save the lessees from loss. The greatest sympathy, however, has already been expressed for the proprietors by the musical profession; and Prince George Galitzin, the Russian composer, has offered to undertake the organisation of a concert and a fresco entertainment for their sole benefit. The building was insured, it is believed, to its full value.

THE HOSPITAL-GATE.

THE notice-board at the gate notifies to all who may have come into that inheritance to which we have Shakspeare's authority for declaring all flesh has title that the proper time to attend to be must as far as may be of the said inheritance is between the hours of eleven and one o'clock daily. Therefore, as the hospital clock chimed the former time, I struck out of Giltspur-street, and approached the sombre building; not, my lucky stars be thanked, as one needing aid of surgeon or apothecary, but to see one of the most melancholy and instructive pictures to be met in London's length and breadth. Being an intruder, and not disposed to flaunt my healthfulness to the dull and sorrowing gaze of those who clustered at the portal, I took my station in the shadowy lee of a fragrant hay-waggon, and, sitting down on the deserted shaft of it, secured

a fair view of up the street and down the street, and across the road.

I experienced little difficulty in distinguishing from among the pedestrians who thronged the pavement they who had business with Saint Bartholomew; for the notice-board, among other things, particularly stipulated that "patients must provide themselves with gallipots and bottles;" and, as a rule, the pale ones, and the lame ones, and they who were led because they could not see, were so provided. Gracious me! what a leveller of pride is Death's lieutenant, Sickness! Here comes Jones, worthy man, meekly bearing his gallipot, wrapped in paper, it is true, but palpably a gallipot, whereas, if he were unafflicted and free to perform as usual the diurnal journey out and home from Islington to the City, he would go dinnerless rather than be the bearer of his own mutton chop. Likewise comes estimable Mr. Robinson, who, before his system was shocked beyond the pomps and vanities of this wicked world, disdained to carry so vulgar an article as a gingham umbrella (perhaps that is how he caught his rheumatism, poor man), now exhibits, peeping from the tail-pocket of his coat, the throat of the quart bottle that is to contain his "mixture."

The respectable Browns or Joneses, however, are scarcely fair samples of the patrons of Saint Bartholomew: if their ailments are not very severe their "regular" doctor will set them right for a pound or so, and they can afford to pay it. Neither is the war army recruited specially from the squalid, loud-mouthed poverty of the

his malady as the British Museum or the National Gallery for amusement and instruction, or the common to play cricket on. So argue the honest endurers of the wolf at number 31, and, without doubt, they are perfectly correct.

Whilst, however, I sit philosophising on the wagon-shaft the human cluster at the gate has grown thicker. Along the broad steps sit mothers cuddling to their bosoms sick infants, varying in age from the tiny creature ignorant of a want beyond to the languid little fellow of four or five whom affliction has once more reduced to babyhood. Why the mothers sit here I do not know. Perhaps the gentleman appointed to the sick-baby department has not yet arrived, or, having arrived, is so besieged by mothers that these considerate ones prefer sitting in the sun with their darlings till the press has abated and they can take them in without disturbance. Perhaps, again, having so nearly reached the terrible place where for their health's sake the poor little sufferers must be put to pain, mother's tender heart fails her, and she is obliged to sit thus on the threshold to consider her little one's long-suffering, and to contemplate its wasting face, to screw her courage for the final effort.

No wonder if it is so, since from my post of observation I can see grown men and women, and tall young men and maidens, guilty of the same weakness. I am quite convinced that the pulling of teeth is not the most painful operation to which an hospital patient may be subjected; and yet, of all who "hang on and off," as the nautical phrase is, loitering among the deserted cattle-pens, and looking wistfully and alternately at the grim building and at the road that tends homeward, the ones with bandaged jaws numbered most. Of course their case is very hard (having had in my time two grinders extracted whose decay in no way shook their attachment to me; I know how hard their case is); but what amount of pity could be spared for them in presence of the terrible things that everywhere met the eye? The pains as well as the pleasures of the world can only be measured by comparison. By the side of a shattered limb toothache becomes a mere trifle; and, compared with many of the appalling spectacles to be met within a circuit of a hundred yards of old Bartholomew any day between the hours of eleven and two, it becomes less than a trifle—a joke, and a thing to be laughed at.

Why, within the limit mentioned, I can see a dozen men who, if the transfer were possible, would accept the most villainous tooth that ever a mouth was troubled with in exchange for their ailment, and throw in as a bonus a good year of their lives, chancing how long they would live without it. Not the worst looking cases either, some of these. Take, for example, that elderly man with his arm slung to his neck, and accompanied by his two sons, as pale and as anxious as himself. How wretchedly cheerful the trio are! How the eldest of the old fellow's boys, winking sternly at the younger to be sure and countenance the dreadful fib he is about to relate, launches into the particulars of a "case"—a terrible case, compared with which father's is the merest cat-scratch—in which, thanks to the blessed application of chloroform, the limb was shorn, the patient dreaming the pleasantest dreams the while! And the good old boy, to comfort the young ones, affects the most perfect belief in the story, and even essays a ghastly little joke on the subject, while all the time his heart is at freezing-point through thinking that if the amputation of those blessed fingers should cost him his life what a woful thing it will be for Polly (his wife) and the three little ones. But there is no help for it; he will surely die unless he submits to the terrible ordeal; so, just a tiny nip of brandy to keep his courage up, and in he goes, the boys looking after him almost as people look when the undertaker's man, twiddling his screwdriver, observes, with professional melancholy, "Would any other member of the family like," &c.

"Room there, you about the gate! Ring the bell, boy, will you?" Not the least occasion. The liveried porter, hearing the hasty wheels, has just peeped out to see a cab, with a policeman descending from the driving-seat, and the next moment makes his appearance with a companion, the two carrying a "stretcher." "Slater off a roof!" exclaims the policeman, shortly; and, gently handled by a dozen willing hands, as though he were a baby, the pallid man, with his great dirty, labouring hands, and the slating-nail's dropping from his jacket-pocket and tinkling on the pavement, is borne through the gate to have his shattered bones set and be brought to life again, if the ripest skill in the kingdom can accomplish the doubtful business.

One thing is certain. The shattered slater will not pine to death in his ward from lack of company. No trade is better represented in the accident ward than that of house-building. If I was in the life-assurance line I think I would almost as soon lease the life of a soldier as of a house-painter, a bricklayers' labourer, or a slater. I think I would quite as soon do it, and I do not believe I should be out of pocket by it. In his battle for bread the slater risks his life equally with the former, who fights his country's battles. Where is the difference? One man in the ranks with his comrades may catch a bullet in his carcase; the other, sprawling on a slippery slant, with a clear descent of forty feet to the street stones, is at the mercy of a rotten rope or a sudden wind. The soldier, sword in hand, pitted against another soldier, fights for his life; the house-painter, atop of a fifty-round ladder, may at any minute of his working days be seized with vertigo, or the first drunken booby that comes up the street may stumble against the ladder's foot, and the poor painter in an instant make a swift descent to certain death. In one respect the soldier has the advantage; for whereas at least half his life is spent in consuming his rations, pipeclaying his leathers, and washing his shirts, the poor slater begins his battles with his apprenticeship, and continues them till he becomes too old and decrepit to mount a ladder.

It is wonderful how one grows used to horrors. Shortly after the commotion (very slight it was) consequent on the slater's arrival had subsided there came in succession two "run-overs" and an Irish person severely wounded on the head with a drinking-vessel. I was enabled, however, to regard the ugly scene with perfect equanimity, and even cast about me for something more interesting. I didn't look in vain. At some distance from the casual gate there is another, and about this was a group expectant, evidently, from the way in which, every few seconds, they peered up the archway in which a beadle kept sentry. I was too far off to hear what they said, but presently one, who happened to be watching at a



MDLLE. PATTI.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.)

City; it is the latter that obstructs the doorway and invades the narrow limits of the "parish" surgery, for the most cogent reason that bread and meat may be included in the parochial M.D.'s prescriptions, and lazy father's bad foot, or sister Polly's asthma, be thus made a source of income rather than of impoverishment to the entire family. It is chiefly those whom no amount of hunger would induce to beg a loaf that demand hospital relief; who would go empty and thin, and no more dream of applying at a work-house for alms, than they would dream of assuaging their distress by a larcenous onslaught on their neighbours' goods. The horny-handed ones are these, and the horny-handed ones' wives, who while they can work will, and at whose door, while health holds good, "the wolf," or its shadow even, is unknown. It is sickness alone that gives the grim beast ingress; and there he is allowed to stay, roaming about the house, and ravaging it, plucking the treasured silk gown from its sacred hiding, the hard-earned watch from the fob, the Sunday suit from the clothes-chest, the well-worn wedding-ring even from the lean finger, and, the number of the house where the wolf is sojourning being 31, neither 30 nor 32 having the least suspicion of the fact. Nobody is aware of it; least of all any gentleman in the neighbourhood whose business it is to vend advice and healing drugs at a profit. Not a penny of the wolf's plunderings goes to him. Why should it? The healing skill to be found at the hospital is of a higher order than can be bought for a little money, and there is no taint of pauperism in partaking of the advantage. The hospital is public property—as proper a place for a man to visit for relief for

moment when no one else was, made a sudden observation, and then the whole party eagerly turned and looked too, and it was easy enough to see, by the way in which all the lips moved, that "Here he comes!" was uttered by them all.

Who was "he"? A tall young fellow, with lanky legs, very thin, and with a delicate, newly-made-looking face. These were his most remarkable points, as far as I could judge; but the watchers at the gate saw more than this plainly, or they would never have made such a fuss with him. He didn't come out alone. There was with him a little elderly woman, who held his hand in hers, as though afraid of losing him the moment they reached the corner of the street; while, at the same time, one was made aware, by the little woman's bright, brimming eyes, that a more cruel thing could scarcely happen. No sooner, however, did the odd pair approach the group than a man with grey hair and spectacles, and a little taller than the little woman, seized the lank young man by the disengaged hand, and for a moment seemed inclined to wrestle with the old lady for possession of the prize. This, however, the old lady appeared to object to, not unkindly, however, for she first shook hands with the old fellow in a queer sort of way, and then, turning broadside on to the slender young man, clutched at his neck, and, pulling his face down to hers (he seemed very supple, poor fellow!) kissed him, till he with the spectacles exclaimed in an ashamed voice, and quite loud enough for me to hear, "Come, mother, that'll do—in the street, you know!"

If it had not have happened that the way of the curious party lay in the direction of my hay-waggon, I might have been puzzled till my dying day to know what it all meant. I was, however, spared that infliction, for just as they were trooping past I heard the little grey-haired man say,

"I'm bothered if it isn't, mother! A year and two months come the 23rd, and he has grown a foot if a single inch!"

The year and two months must have been the time the young fellow had lain at Old Bartholomew's. J. G.

WORKING OF THE COMMERCIAL TREATY.

THE Commissioners of Customs have published their fifth report, from which we learn what has been the working of the Commercial Treaty with France up to the close of the last year:—

"Of the general effect of the treaty as regards our trade with France it is impossible as yet to speak with any degree of certainty. The only portion of the new French tariff that is as yet in operation is that decided upon by the first Supplementary Convention, and relating to metals, minerals, and machinery, and metal manufactures. A very large contract for iron water-pipes was taken up at Glasgow

for the French Government in the course of the autumn, and the returns of our exports to France up to the end of the year 1860, as compared with 1859, give us an increase in hardware of 49 per cent; in pig-iron of 4 per cent; in bar and bolt iron of 6 per cent; in copper of 8 per cent; and in lead of 35 per cent.

"On our side, where the execution has so promptly followed the treaty, we find, on looking at our account of goods imported from France, that the importation of clocks has risen 24 per cent; of watches, 50 per cent; of leather gloves, 15 per cent; silk manufactures, 17 per cent; shawls, scarfs, and handkerchiefs of woollen manufacture, 300 per cent.

"We may here, however, mention that the depression of the silk trade, and the consequent distress among the Coventry ribbon-weavers during the last year, has been erroneously attributed to the operation of the treaty. It cannot be denied that the importation of ribbons has increased in the year to the extent of about 10 per cent; but the whole of that increase was in the last month, December,

1859, until at length they rose to an unprecedented height under the stimulus of the new tariff. Of course, it would be unfair to contrast 1860 with 1858, but, if we take 10,000,000 gallons as an average return, it will be seen that 25 per cent has been gained even upon this standard in the year just past, and that increase the Commissioners regard as the true measure of the effects of the treaty. These imports, however, have not come from France alone. Portugal, Spain, Germany, and Madeira have also responded to our invitation, and largely augmented their contributions to our stores.

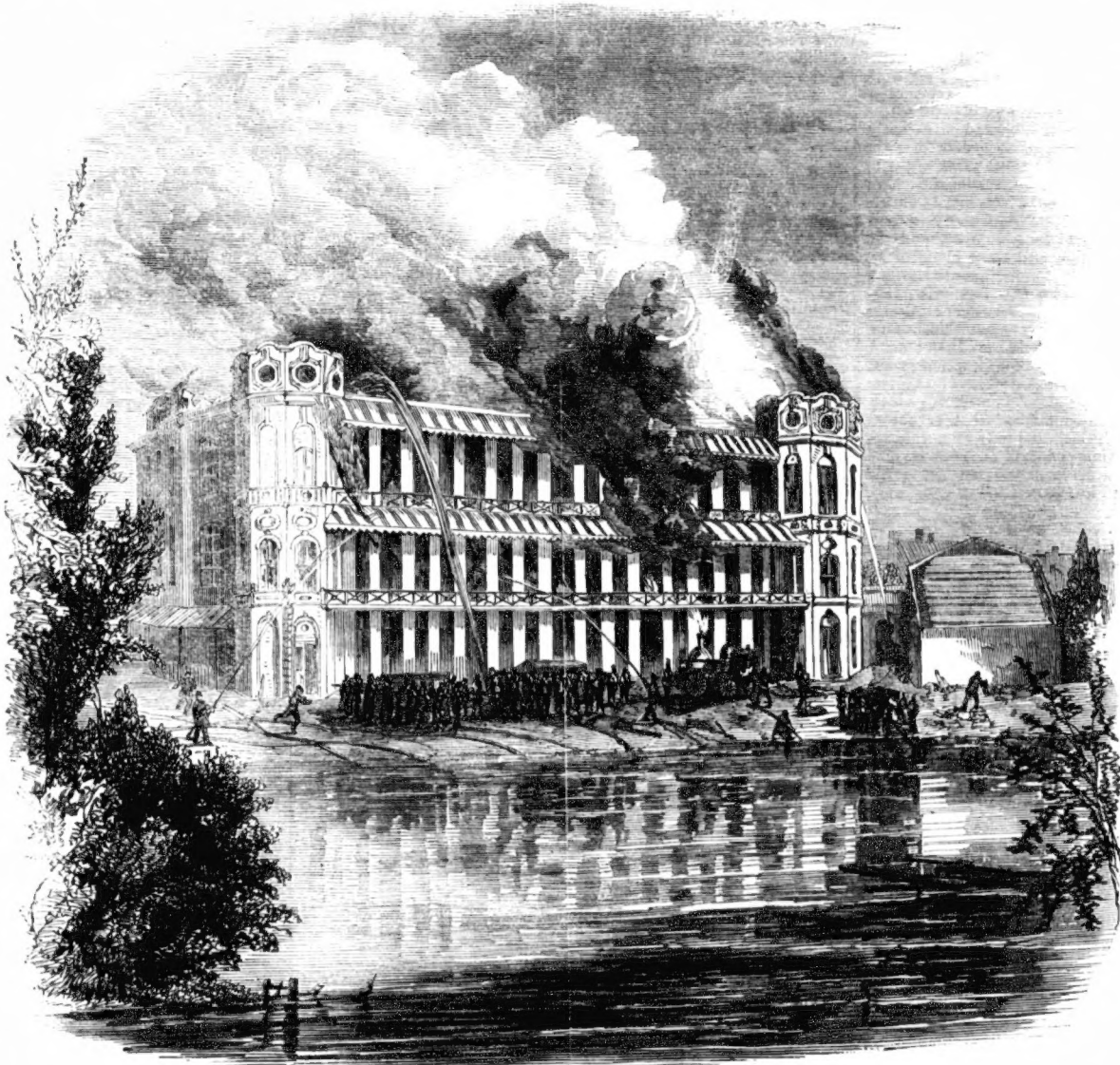
The Commissioners naturally anticipate some surprise that Madeira should send any considerable quantity of wine, seeing that the vineyards have been almost wholly destroyed, but they explain the statement by observing that the wines of Tenerife are first transported to Madeira, then manipulated by the skilled manufacturers of that island, and finally exported to this country as the genuine growth of the old field. Even yet, however, the curiosities of these statistics are unexhausted. The truth is that, though we have imported extraordinary

and up to that time the importations had positively fallen off. The distress in Coventry was at its worst at a much earlier period of the year, and is, in reality, to be attributed to the alteration in the fashion of female attire that took place last year, and the almost entire discontinuance of the use of ribbons as a trimming. The effects of this change were as much felt in France as in England, and the workpeople of St. Etienne suffered as much as those of Coventry. The great depression of the silk trade also in America caused the return of large stocks of goods manufactured for that market to England, thus glutting the markets here and stopping production for a certain time."

From these general statements we proceed to the particular statistics reserved by the Commissioners for special analysis—viz., those of the wine trade:—

"But the increase most deserving of special notice is that which has taken place in wine. This was, no doubt, to be expected both from the reduction of duty we have above alluded to, from 5s. 6d. per gallon and 5 per cent to 3s., in pursuance of the terms of the treaty with France, and from the prospect the trade had before them throughout the year of the still further reductions that have now come into force. The returns for the last six years of the importation of wine are as follow:—1855, 8,946,766 gallons; 1856, 9,481,820 gallons; 1857, 10,336,845 gallons; 1858, 5,791,636 gallons; 1859, 8,195,513 gallons; 1860, 12,483,362 gallons."

These figures are certainly impressive, but they become still more so when closely examined. It will be seen that the imports of wine gradually increased from 1855 to 1857, and that in 1858 they suddenly experienced an enormous reduction, due to the grape disease and the failure of the vintage. From this decline they rallied considerably in



DESTRUCTION OF THE SURREY MUSIC-HALL.



LONDON SKETCHES, NO. 8.—THE HOSPITAL-GATE.

supplies of wine, we have not consumed them; and the Commissioners are compelled to observe that the practical "advantage" of the treaty in bringing wholesome wines to English tables has not been felt to such an extent as might have been anticipated. The consumption of Spanish wines—i.e., sherries, has risen only 3 per cent, with a rise in imports of 40 per cent; while the consumption of port, with increased imports of the article, has actually decreased 13 per cent. Altogether, whereas importation has advanced at a rate of 60 per cent., consumption has increased at a rate of 1 per cent only, or a little over. Nevertheless, light wholesome wines of a character little known in this country have unquestionably been brought into use. There is another point, too, which merits notice. By the equalisation of foreign and colonial duties our dependencies lost the protection which they had long enjoyed, and the consequence has been that colonial wines, and those alone of all descriptions of such produce, are imported in smaller quantities than before. There can be only one inference from this fact—viz., that free trade enables us to get better wines than formerly. As for the rest of the enigma, it is explained by the remark that, with a further reduction of duty in prospect, the trade held back their stocks, instead of pouring them into the market, so that consumption ceased for the moment to keep pace with importation.

There is another point of material and direct importance which must not be left unnoticed. All these advantages, whether actual or prospective, in the way of trade, were acquired only by a sacrifice of revenue; and the ascertained amount of that sacrifice is now returned at 1,899,302, that being the difference between the gross yield of the customs duties in 1859 and in 1860.

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

"GUSTAVUS THE THIRD; or, the Masked Ball," is still remembered as a spectacle at Drury-lane Theatre, while it suffers no danger of being forgotten as an opera of Auber's. "Un Ballo in Maschera," which has just been put or thrown upon the stage of the Lyceum, will hardly retain its place there either as an opera or a spectacle. In regard to story, "Un Ballo in Maschera" and "Gustavus III." are one and the same thing; only as Maschera means Massachusetts, and as the characters if not the events in "Gustavus" are historical, a change of *dramatis personæ* followed necessarily on the change of place. The Governor of Boston, Richard, Earl of Warwick, appears in room of Gustavus, King of Sweden. Count Ankaström vanishes, but only to be replaced by another secretary, named Renato, with a wife whose name, Amelia, is a relic of Scribe's libretto of the original opera, "Gustavus." Both the female characters, by-the-by, retain their names, and so does the page Oscar, though the bills had him down as "Edgar" on the first night. The chief conspirators are dubbed Samuele and Tommaso; and thus we arrive at the end of the list. All these parts are distributed happily enough, and if the ensemble had been worthier the foreground figures, Signor Verdi would have had no just cause of complaint regarding the manner in which his work has been produced at the Lyceum. As it is, we cannot but regard the composer as a deeply injured man. He will receive ample justice, no doubt, at the hands of Mr. Gye and the vast establishment under his control, the adequate rehearsal being a consideration which has led to the postponement of the opera at Covent Garden until Thursday, July 27. The latest fruit of Signor Verdi's tuneful invention has been forced, we believe, with a more than Verdian care; and it is nowhere questioned that "Un Ballo in Maschera" is one of his most ambitious works, however doubtful may be its pretensions to rank with "Rigoletto," or even with the "Trovatore," in popular esteem. We have heard "Un Ballo" twice, and have arrived, perhaps, at some appreciation of its quality as a grand opera; but we shall, nevertheless, prefer to hear it efficiently rendered at all points before we give judgment. Nothing could be finer than the singing of Mdlle. Titiens in the part of Amelia, or than that of Mdlle. Gassier in the character of the boy. Mdlle. Lemaire was dramatically as well as vocally excellent, and entered with admirable force, spirit, and feeling, into the part of the sorcerer. To hear Signor Delle Sedie in new music is to find him still the accomplished singer we deemed him from the first to be. Signor Giuglini, who is, of course, the Boston Gustavus, sang the music belonging to that transmuted hero in a way which almost made one indifferent to the deficiencies of the actor. Signor Gassier, ever ready to aid in a sphere below his own, was highly effective in the part of Samuel, and was well seconded by Mr. Patey as Thomas.

The New Philharmonic Society gave its last concert of the season on Monday night. Two of Beethoven's overtures and his Heroic Symphony formed a part of the programme, which was throughout an illustration of agreeable "high art." Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto was played by M. Wieniawski with the utmost effect of light and shade—to borrow the most convenient expression, though, perhaps, not the least trite of phrases, from the sister art; and that rapidly-rising young pianist, Mr. J. F. Barnett, took the place of Miss Arabella Goddard, who was said to be disabled by that alarming cause, a sprained wrist. Mr. Barnett, by his playing of Weber's Concert Stück, which he was enabled to enhance by a consummate elasticity and freedom of touch as well as by perfect taste and judgment, earned the honour of a recall. Mdlle. Lemmens-Sherrington was the vocalist, and she especially distinguished herself in the duetto for voice and violin by Pacini and Artôt, her companion being M. Wieniawski. This tenth season, now past, will stand long in musical memories to the credit of Dr. Wylde.

Mrs. Anderson's reputation as an artist and a teacher is stamped by the fact of her being the musical instructress in the Royal family and pianist to the Queen. To say, then, that her annual concert was given on Monday at St. James's Hall entails the almost necessary inference that a brilliant and crowded audience attended her invitation; and unassisted conjecture might safely proceed further to define the character of the entertainment. It was, in truth, first rate in all its details. We have before observed that Beethoven's music is much in request this season, and shall not surprise our readers by stating that the fine orchestra provided by Mrs. Anderson on this occasion justified her selection and confidence by their performance of one of the most difficult overtures composed by that master. Mrs. Anderson herself chose Hummel's music for the exhibition of her powers, giving the last two movements of the concert in A minor with unsurpassable effect. The lady was assisted by the following artists:—Mdlle. Titiens, Mdlle. Guerrabella, Miss Augusta Thomson, Miss Lascelles, Mdlle. Parepa, Mdlle. Rieder, Signor Delle Sedie, Signor Dalle Aste, Mr. Tennant, Mr. Patey, the Orpheus Glee Union, and Herr Strauss.

At an extra concert of Mr. Leslie's choir on Tuesday evening, at St. James's Hall, the director's cantata, "Holyrood," was repeated. A reduction of forces diminished to a corresponding extent the effect of this now popular work, an orchestra being dispensed with, on the strength of a pianoforte and harmonium, while the chorus appeared to be less numerous than on former occasions. Mdlle. Lemmens-Sherrington, Miss Palmer, Mr. Wilbye Cooper, and Mr. Weiss, being all the very singers for the parts they took, it is enough to say that they gave one more proof of the happy choice by which they were originally identified with the cantata. In the second part, which was exclusively sacred, Bach's chorale, "God, my King," was the most notable feature.

The sixth and last of Mr. Kingsbury's soirées musicales took place on Wednesday evening, at his private residence, and was attended by those lovers of chamber music whose confidence he has so well deserved and successfully won. The programme included some vocal pieces, but its chief character was formed on an instrumental basis. Our best English violoncellist, Mr. George Collins, took a leading part in the programme, introducing his own graceful "Souvenir de Donizetti." The No. 2 quartet of Mozart, in E flat, for pianoforte, violin, viola, and violoncello, was excellently played by Messrs. Kingsbury, Viotti

Collins, Evans, and George Collins; and the next in attractiveness was Beethoven's pianoforte and violin sonata, No. 2, op. 23, which was rendered with true feeling by Mr. Kingsbury and Mr. Viotti Collins. Mr. Allan Irving sang Rossini's grand air "Sorgete" very tastefully, and with a power adapted to the limits of a chamber.

FIGHT FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP.

THERE has been another fight for the championship; the mere description of which is so shocking that we hesitate to print it. However, it is doubtful whether the journalist does well to conceal such outrages on civilisation. The following account—which we have softened in several particulars—is taken from the *Times*:—

It is, perhaps, no information even for those least acquainted with the dirty arcanæ of the prize-ring to be told that the champion's belt, for the possession of which Heenan and Sayers struggled with such cruel obstinacy, was eventually awarded to neither. The trophy was left open to public competition, though, as the belt happens to be one of those peculiar gifts of fortune which are not to be had for the asking, and as its possession entails some personal responsibility, in the way of having to fight all comers, no matter how many or how big, the number of candidates for the dangerous honour was, on the whole, decidedly limited. The first claimants were Hurst and Paddock.

Hurst is the champion wrestler of Lancashire, a man of gigantic frame and almost superhuman strength, but perhaps the most unskilful boxer that ever entered the prize-ring. In his contest with Paddock he was dreadfully punished, but almost by accident contrived at the close of the fight to hit his adversary one blow, and one blow from such a Goliath was quite sufficient, for Paddock was all but killed by it. Hurst then fore came into full possession of the turbulent honours of the belt, to which a boxer named Mace at once laid claim.

Mace is a very small man, though possessed of wonderful strength and activity, almost a harder hitter than Sayers himself, and reputed to be the most scientific pugilist alive. Yet, even with these advantages, it seemed almost monstrous to suppose that he could contend for an instant with any chance of success against an adversary so overpowering in strength, and size, and weight as Hurst. Nevertheless, a match was made for the championship, and on Tuesday it was fought to an issue on an island in the Medway, and resulted in Mace punishing his gigantic antagonist so fearfully that he may literally be said to have almost killed him without receiving a single blow in return.

The contrast between the two men as they entered the ring was even more startlingly disproportionate than that between Heenan and Sayers. Hurst stood nearly six feet three inches in height, and weighed sixteen stone, while his gigantic swarthy chest and limbs, in which the muscles stood out in great folds and knots like bosses of bronze, made his figure look even larger and more formidable, if possible, than it was in reality. In looking at his massive proportions, and the evidences of tremendous strength as the thews and sinews crept and rolled with every movement, one felt a kind of fascinating terror, which changed to almost sickening apprehension for the fate of the man who had dared such a Colossus to a combat. Among ordinary men Mace would have seemed a terrible antagonist for any to cope with, but, dwarfed and almost overshadowed by the giant he had challenged, his venture seemed little short of sheer madness. His height is barely over five feet eight inches, his weight only ten stone and a half; yet, as he prepared himself for the contest on Tuesday, there was an easy air of nonchalance about him which, coupled with his compact, fair frame, and lithe and active figure, on which the small but hard and well-developed muscles showed out in startling relief, made his venture appear less desperate than it was to those acquainted with his skill and strength.

Hurst to his other advantages added that of winning the choice of corners, and, of course, took that with his back to the sun, leaving its fierce rays full in the face of his antagonist. When, at last, after shaking hands, the men stood alone in the centre of the ring, it seemed almost like conniving at a murder to permit a contest between two men so disproportioned in size, height, strength, and weight. Yet Mace, as he stood up almost in the shadow of his great assailant, seemed confident, though, of course, very cautious. Lightly Mace moved in and out, feinting and smiling, as, with a noiseless bound, like a cat, he sprang just out of distance of the ponderous arms that seemed only required to move to crush him. Gradually they drew nearer and nearer, the giant waiting for his chance, which the other now and then appeared to give him, though, in reality, he ventured nothing. At last Mace carefully ventured in and struck his opponent slightly three or four times in the face. They were only little blows, but enough to show him that he could reach the slow, unwieldy boxer when he chose, and get out of all danger of return with perfect certainty. Apparently satisfied with this knowledge, Mace began the fight with a terrific blow, which completely closed Hurst's eye, and seemed to make his bulky frame tremble to his very feet. Before the first round, which lasted nearly twelve minutes, was over, Hurst was half smothered in his own blood, and his face so gashed that, as far as appearances went, Mace might have been assaulting him with a razor. Still, as it was known that Hurst had but to give one blow to win the day, no one seemed inclined to back Mace, who might at any moment get a stroke that would annihilate him. Yet the tremendous blow that seemed always impending never came. Hurst knew, evidently, nothing of boxing, and his antagonist therefore merely drew aside, with the most perfect sangfroid, from the slow, awkward movements of the ponderous arms, delivering his own strokes full on the head and face of the giant with a force and rapidity that was terrible. In vain, like a blind Cyclops, Hurst threw his arms abroad, and strove to grasp, to strike, even to touch his lithe wiry foe—in vain he strove to hem him into a corner. Mace would simply inflict his tremendous blows full on the face of his opponent, pass under his arm, and be gone at most before the eye could follow his movements. Hurst was literally deluged with blood, which poured over his huge figure in such streams that Mace himself was covered with it, and the clothes of Hurst's two seconds almost saturated. Nothing showed the enormous strength of the man more than that he could sustain this fearful punishment and loss of blood with apparently little diminution of his colour power. He still pursued Mace with unabated determination, but never once even touched him, while, on the other hand, Mace's blows sounded loud all over the ring. No hind stopped the copious streams of blood that flowed from all parts of Hurst's face, and the whole of this one-sided contest became disgusting and horrible beyond all description.

After there had been ten rounds, and the fight had lasted three-quarters of an hour, Hurst's seconds and backers saw that his chance was hopeless, and urgently strove to make him discontinue. But, though now utterly blind, his features beaten out of all recognition almost, and reeling from his fearful loss of blood, the disfigured giant still tottered to his corner, only to be sent staggering back by an antagonist that he seemed capable of annihilating. Mace now no longer fought cautiously, but hit when and where he pleased, and even closed with the great wrestler and threw him heavily. It was all over. Hercules himself would have succumbed to such fearful blows, and the alarming hemorrhage which followed them, and which now began to soak all the grass of the ring.

Brettie, Hurst's chief backer, at last rushed into the arena, and insisted on his fighting no more, but the maimed giant seemed incapable of understanding his defeat from such a little man, and groped and staggered out again. Blind and fainting, it only required one or two more blows to finish the affair; but this infliction was horrible and sickening beyond all description. His seconds and backers gave in for him without his knowledge, and kept Hurst in his corner till he gradually became almost insensible, and all the restorative arts of the ring were exhausted in efforts to keep him from fainting, which, in the absence of a surgeon, and in his then fast-failing power, might have been a most serious affair.

The spectacle which he presented is too horrible for description. Even the oldest champions of the ring were aghast at the fearful punishment inflicted in fifty minutes. Mace had not a single mark on him.

The dockyard police were dispatched in a steamer from Chatham to prevent the fight, and arrived just as it was over—quite official that. It is a kind of set-off to this revolting business to say that poor Hurst's comrades on both sides were most solicitous in their care of him after his defeat, and Mace went about among them and raised a subscription for him amounting to £35. Such facts, though undoubtedly praiseworthy, but poorly counterbalance the horrible nature of the whole contest. Yet pugilists think that in a few years the ring will again glow with all the brutal magnificence of the days of the Regency. Revive the ring! It would be easier to restore the Heptarchy.

A FALL FROM BLONDIN'S ROPE.—An accident, likely to terminate fatally, occurred on Monday to one of the workmen employed in fixing the rope across the lake over which M. Blondin took his perilous walk on Monday. The task of fixing the rope having been completed, one of the men ventured some distance along the rope to reach a piece of wood used in the operation which had been left suspended, when, having obtained possession of it, he endeavoured to retrace his steps. To do this it became necessary to turn himself round, and, either from giddiness or some other cause, in doing this he slipped off the rope, which in falling he caught with his hands, and hung for some time suspended in the air at a height of nearly 100 feet, crying loudly for help. The rope being about seven inches in circumference, it became evident to the spectators that, being unable to grasp it, he must soon fall. The cries of the crowd were terrific, and there were no possible means by which the man could be released from his dreadful position. After being suspended in this way for some minutes he was compelled to relax his hold, and fell on the gravel walk below. Assistance was immediately rendered, when it was found that he had sustained a severe fracture of the spine and other injuries, which leave but little hope of his recovery.

THE MURDER AT KINGSWOOD.

A BUNDLE of papers has been found in the house of the Rev. Mr. Taylor, at Kingswood, where Mrs. Halliday was so brutally murdered last week. These papers were evidently dropped by the perpetrators of the crime.

Among the papers was a book with which each working German is provided by order of the State, and in which he is minutely described by name, age, height, complexion, marks on person, &c., for the purpose of keeping a proper record of his movements. Upon going into any service this book has to be produced, and the employer then inserts his name, occupation, residence, and other particulars respecting himself, as well as the date at which the engagement commenced, when it terminated, and the conduct of the employee during the period of such service. By this book it appeared that the owner was named Johann Carl Frantz, of Königstein, in the kingdom of Saxony; he was twenty-five years of age, and of middle height; he had light brown hair cut short, and no whiskers, brown eyes, and no distinguishing marks about his person. He was last in the employment of Wilhelm Gotthelf Biemer, timber-merchant, as a raftman, and was discharged on the 19th of April last, having only filled his engagement for ten days.

There were also several letters in the book; all written in German. One was addressed to Mdlle. Titiens, dated the 14th inst., in which the writer described himself as a poor German, a native of Breslau, in Silicia, by profession a horn-turner. He stated that he came to England in the expectation of procuring work; that he had been unable to do so, as he could not speak English; that he was in the greatest want, and imploring assistance to enable him to get back to Germany. The letter was signed "Adolphe Krohn." Mdlle. Titiens' answer to the above was also found in the book. It was dated the 7th of June, and was addressed to Mr. Krohn, the proprietor of the Hamburg Hotel, America-square, City: she expressed her deep sympathy with the bearer, and requested Mr. Krohn to carry out what she conceived to be the most beneficial scheme for his welfare—viz., procuring for him on her behalf a passage to Hamburg by the first opportunity: she promised at the same time to defray all expenses, and urged Mr. Krohn to take the necessary steps for the comfort of the unfortunate person on immediately on receiving her communication.

Mr. Superintendent Coward has waited upon Mdlle. Titiens. She at once identified her own letter, which was shown her by the officer, and stated that a young man called upon her and made a verbal application for assistance. He mentioned all the circumstances referred to in the above letter, and added that he had slept two nights in the streets, and had no means to procure either food or bed. Commiserating his position, but not wishing to give him money, as she was waited upon by so many similar applicants, Mdlle. Titiens wrote the letter which the officer produced, requesting Mr. Krohn to send the young man over to his native country. It appears, however, that he never applied. It is clear, therefore, that the application to Mdlle. Titiens was only made in the hope of procuring money, and that the wish to return to Germany was fictitious. The application for relief was made to Mdlle. Titiens on the evening of Friday, the 7th. On the following day the murderers, no doubt, walked down to Reigate; for it is proved that on the afternoon of Sunday they presented themselves at the Cricketers Inn, just opposite the Reigate police-station. The description given by Mr. Sayers, the landlord, agrees in every particular with that supplied by several other persons, and also with that contained in the book found in the room where the murder was perpetrated. They remained at the Cricketers all Sunday night, sleeping in the same room. When they left the next day they intimated their intention of returning. They did not, however, do so; but about one o'clock they went to a small shop in the town kept by a person named Pitcher, and purchased a ball of stout cord, for which they paid 2d. A girl who served them observed that both were foreigners, and, when one of the pieces of cord with which the unfortunate woman's arms and legs were tied together was produced at Pitcher's, it was immediately identified as having formed a portion of the ball above referred to. They remained in Reigate up to between four and five o'clock on Monday afternoon, and probably left direct for Kingswood, as they were seen near the parsonage-house between six and seven the same evening. When night came on no doubt the murderers secreted themselves in one of the plantations by which Mr. Alcock's seat is surrounded until about eleven o'clock, when they imagined all the inhabitants had retired to rest, and they then proceeded to enter Mr. Taylor's house. A police constable whom they met at Sutton asked them where they were going. They replied, "To London." The constable asked what part of London they wished to go to. One replied who acted as spokesman, "To old Pye-street, Westminster."

A reward of £200 has been offered to any person who shall give information leading to the discovery of the murderer. Mdlle. Titiens describes the man who waited upon her as being about 5 feet 5 inches, of fair complexion, dressed in a brown coat, speckled trousers, a cap with a peak, striped shirt, turned-down collar, with black necktie. This person answers the description of Frantz, not only as given in the book, but as that of one of the men seen at Kingswood, and afterwards at Sutton.

The inquest was concluded on Wednesday. No evidence of sufficient importance to fix this foul murder upon any one was brought forward, and the jury returned a verdict of "Wilful murder" against some person or persons unknown.

Two men, Germans, have been apprehended by the police, near Chichester, whose general appearance comes near to the published description of the supposed murderers.

EXTENSIVE FIRES IN MANCHESTER.

Two very serious fires took place in Manchester, one yesterday week, the other on Saturday evening. In the first a man was killed; in the second an immense amount of property was destroyed.

The first fire was at a mill in Ancoats-vale, near to Palmerston street, the three lower floors being occupied by Messrs. W. Bailey and R. Crawshaw, reedmakers, and the top story tenanted by Mr. S. Hamer, indiarubber-manufacturer. The fire seems to have begun about half-past eight in the evening, and made very rapid progress. It is thought, but not ascertained, to have been caused by the boiling over of some inflammable matter in the top story. In half an hour the roof fell in, and for a moment the flames seemed to have been checked, but there was a gentle breeze at the time, which fanned them speedily into tenfold fury. After the fire had been completely overcome, part of the walls of the mill fell outward, killing a fireman named Holmes, a very valuable member of the force, who had been in it for twenty years, and leaves a widow and family. Three other firemen were injured and taken home, but it is thought they will not prove to have been very seriously hurt. The damage was about £12,000. The property is said to have been uninsured.

On Saturday evening, about half-past five o'clock, one of the most extensive manufactories in the city, that of Messrs. Parr, Curtis, and Madeley, who are makers of cotton machinery, was discovered to be on fire. In two hours the whole of the great property was enveloped in a vast blaze, which, although it was still broad daylight, was a sight of terrible magnificence. The roof of the main building and of the workshops fell in, and, one after the other, all the floors crashed in, followed at intervals by the greater part of the outer walls, and burying in the mass of ruin a large amount of valuable machinery, which was very near completion. The fire was not quite subdued till nearly midnight. The loss to the proprietors will not be less than £30,000 or £100,000. The property is insured in various offices for about half that amount.

THE BIRMINGHAM WHIPMAKERS ARE ON STRIKE against the initiation of women into the art and mystery of whipmaking.

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SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 1961.